

BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GUANGDONG 广东英国商会

2019 BRITCHAM SUMMARY

Highlights of Industry, Members and Events at the British Chamber of Commerce Guangdong

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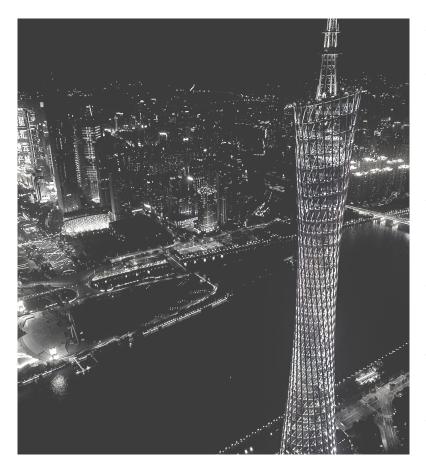
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Introduction

The British Chamber of Commerce Guangdong is an independent, non-profit organisation formed to facilitate and support cooperation between Chinese and British companies operating in the PRD and the GBA, and to promote trade and investment between Guangdong and the UK. We are an integral part of the significant network of British chambers located throughout China focused on providing you with business support, training from and industry leaders and elite networking opportunities to grow your business/skills.

Our inaugural year-end report aims to clarify our focuses; to provide you with key insights into expanding industries and to highlight the benefits of joining our growing family. It explores sectors where we have witness rapid development as well as significant industry trends over the year. It also provides a teaser of what we expect 2020 may hold for us.



As a one of the leading chambers in South China, and in particular the Greater Bay Area (GBA), it is incumbent upon us to produce for our Members and for the business community an insight report highlighting our role in Guangdong's development – bringing the business and corporate community together, helping us together to thrive in one of fastest growing economies in China and the world.

"Joining

the Dots"

We hope you enjoy reading our inaugural annual report and find it helpful. You are always welcome to learn more by following our official WeChat account, to subscribe to our newsletters and to join us in our events. Please also see our website for further details: http://www.britchamgd.com/

A Word from our Chairman



Jeremy Sargent, Chairman British Chamber of Commerce Guangdong

Dear Members and Friends of the BritCham Guangdong,

On behalf of the British Chamber of Commerce Guangdong (BritCham), I am delighted to be able to share with you our inaugural annual "Summary" report, sharing a number of highlights and key moments from the year gone by. In 2019 we organized almost 19 bespoke business events and 8 social events – as well as our catalogue of large-scale "flagship" initiatives including the hugely successful "British Day" events in Guangzhou and Shenzhen, the ever-popular "Women in Business Forum" in Shenzhen and our annual "Golf Day".

We welcomed a number of new team members to our busy and friendly team – including William Sung (Executive Manager), Christy Leung and Vicky Luo, our 2 new membership service managers. We exist to help our members achieve business success – and ultimately to promote trade and investment ties between the United Kingdom and Guangdong – two large, dynamic and open economies. We are proud to have been able to play our part in the larger story of UK-Guangdong business ties. China-UK trade and investment ties are now over GBP66Billion with China is now the UK's 5th largest trading partner. BritCham will only ever be as good as our almost 200 corporate and individual Members and we thank you wholeheartedly for you continuing support. We look forward to a successful 2020.

Best wishes

Jeremy Sargent, OBE

Guangdong's Greater Bay Area (GBA)

The Greater Bay Area, or more commonly referred to as the GBA, has been the buzzword for 2019. Boasting an area the size of Britain and a GDP greater than most South-East Asian countries - the GBA is poised to measure up against some of the biggest "bay areas" globally - as a "hub" of living, innovation and business.

The GBA is like "Marmite", some like it and others don't. The divided opinion may stem from a number of issues, including a perceived lack of transparency and obvious development actions following the released of the major blueprint in February 2019. Together with this, several other regions in China have also announced blue-print plans, such as in Zhejiang, Special Pilot trade zone in Shanghai and carved around space north of Beijing. Nonetheless BritCham Guangdong, operating across the heart of the GBA, is committed towards exploring the opportunities the GBA holds for our Members and our community and to keep our Members updated on all developments within the GBA via a series of events and other activities.



BritCham HK, BritCham Macau, CBBC and the CBI formed an alliance of to bring together the British Business community, with a focus on sharing and connecting on the GBA across the various cities and regions.



Guangdong's 9 major cities for the GBA and the expected GDP by the year 2030



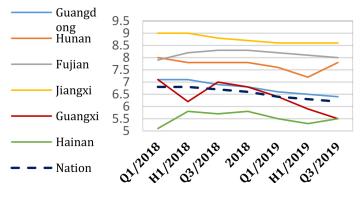
Side by side comparisons of the other global leading Bay ares

BritCham Guangdong is feeling the influence of the GBA – including an increasing number of new Hong Kong-based Members – including our new Supporting Member Clyde & Co. a well-known international law firm who has pivoted to focus on the GBA, along with another new member, global international law firm Baker McKenzie. We are delighted to welcome these members as well as others from professional services, training and other sectors – all seeking to take advantage of the growth in tertiary services.





Economics positive for GBA cities Greater Bay Area cities leading GDP for Guangdong



Quarterly GDP growth rates of provincesand nation, 2018-2019

| City | Ranking | GDP (bn, CNY) | Growth rate (Q3 2019) | |
|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------------|--|
| Shenzhen | 3rd | 1868.9 | 6.6% | |
| Guangzhou | 4th | 1786.9 | 6.9% | |
| Changsha | 14th | 871.3 | 8.3% | |
| Foshan | 17th | 793.2 | 7.0% | |
| Dongguan | 20th | 659.2 | 7.2% | |

Having been the leading provincial economy for 30 consecutive years, Guangdong is on course to another record year in 2019. By the end of Q3 – Guangdong had become the first province whose GDP exceeded 10 trillion yuan and has the highest GDP per capita in South China, reaching 9,724 USD (annual figure estimated to be over 13,200 USD). Despite this, Guangdong still lags behind Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu and Zhejiang for GDP growth per capita.

On a city level, Guangdong's five southern cities are in the top 20 nationwide city list by GDP, of which of four are key cities GBA initiatives.

*Data Source: National Statistics Bureau

Foreign Investments & Foreign Trade

Guangdong saw an accelerated growth of fixed asset investment during 2019H1, especially within the investment of infrastructure which surged by 23.7% in first three quarters largely due to GBA initiatives, while foreign investment saw a drop of only 1.8% for the same period.

| Province | Fixed Asset Investment growth rate (Jan-July)/(Jan- Sep) | Foreign investment growth rate (Jan- June)/(Jan-Sep) |
|-----------|---|--|
| Guangdong | 10.5%/11.3% | 5.9%/1.8% |
| Hunan | 10%/10.1% | 11.9%/11.0% |
| Fujian | 7.0%/7.0% | 4.1%/4.9% |
| Jiangxi | 8.9%/9.4% | 8.1%/8.1% |
| Guangxi | 8.8%/8.6% | 29%/115% |
| Hainan | -21.9%/-16.3% | 629%/140% |

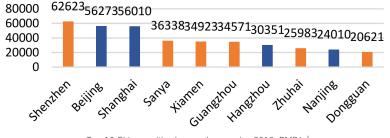
*Guangdong's foreign investment figure is up to August.

| | Foreign trade value | %national total foreign trade | %Growth | Trade with the UK | % China- UK trade |
|-----------|---------------------------|--|---------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Guangdong | 752.4 | 22.5 | -6.3 | 13.5 | 21.2 |
| Fujian | 142.3 | 4.2 | -0.7 | 2.7 | 4.2 |
| Hunan | 33 | 1.4 | 43.6 | 1.03 | 1.6 |
| Guangxi | 38.8 | 1.5 | 10.5 | 0.59 | 0.9 |
| Jiangxi | 27.4 | 1 | -3.2 | 0.73 | 1.1 |
| Hainan | 7.95 | 0.3 | 21 | 0.19 | 0.3 |
| TOTAL | 1001.45 | 29.9 | | 18.74 | 29.3 |

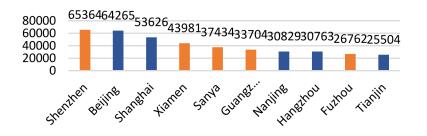
Up to September, South China's cumulative foreign trade values 1001.45 billion USD, representing 29.9%of the national foreign trade, the share shrank slightly by 0.9% comparing with H1. And provinces' performance differ a lot Guangdong continued digging, while Hunan and Hainan saw considerably increase.

*Figures are in billion USD.

Property Price



Top 10 Chinese cities by new home price,2019, RMB/m²



Top 10 Chinese cities by second-handhouse price, October 2019, RMB/m²

Property prices in major Southern cities of Guangdong saw growth in new developments. However, the price of second-hand properties across these cities saw a decline towards the end of 2019, with Guangzhou leading this trend. Shenzhen, on the contrary, witnessed a rebound of this downward trend after the announcement confirming Shenzhen's designation of a "Socialist Pilot Zone", in Q4 of the year.

According to reports produced by a number BritCham of Guangdong members. the prices of new-build properties in six southern cities were in the top 10 cities across China. In relation to the secondary market, five southern cities made the top 10. Shenzhen tops both lists for the most expensive property, and maintained a relatively high growth rate from 2018 to 2019. Some analysts believe the newly rolled out Socialist Pilot Zone may buck the trend.

Focus City - SHENZHEN (深圳)

Shenzhen is the star city in South China as well as in the GBA. Recently elevated from one of four centre cities in GBA to the only Socialist Pilot Zone, Shenzhen may be heading towards another period of frantic growth. However, Shenzhen shocked observers by recording a lower-than-expected GDP growth rate of merely 6.6% in first 9 months, a drop from the 7.4% in 2019H1. In 3rd Quarter, the growth is very likely well below 6%. Slowing growth came as a timely wake-up call, reminding the young city to look seriously at rising land prices and trade headwinds. Despite this, there is optimism in the start-up industry sector where members believe there may well be a second wave of investment – not as previously from domestic PE firms, but instead from international investors seeking to exploit Shenzhen's talent concentration, GBA positioning and costs.

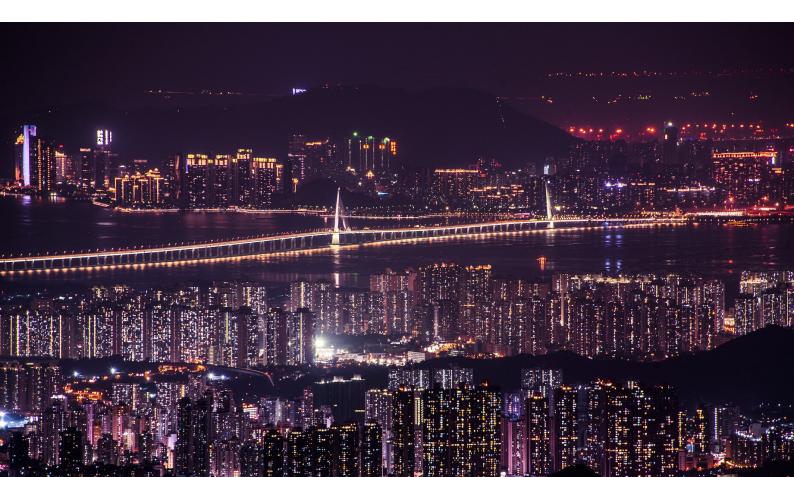


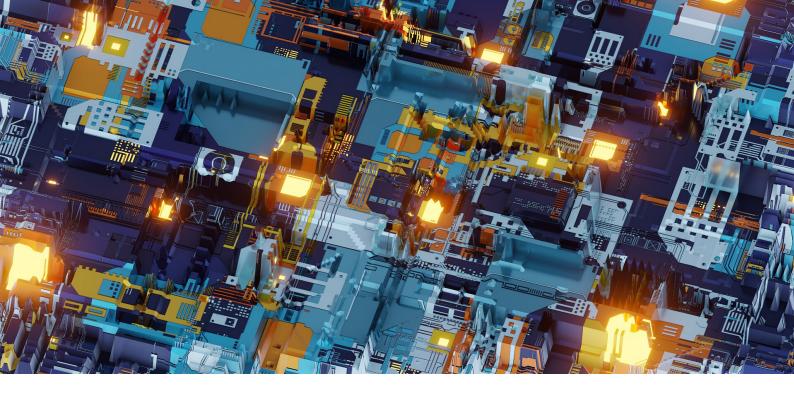






The rise the focus of Shenzhen is important for the British Chamber of commerce, with over 30% of members located in Shenzhen and a growing trend of Tech and medical start-up's, it's imperative we have a local presence. We welcomed Vicky Luo to the team November 2019, where is based in Shenzhen dedicated to serving our members there.





Technology and Innovation in the GBA

The FinTech industry has taken massive leaps in terms of growth with investment in fintech ventures more than doubling from 2017 to 2018. The Deputy CEO of PingAn, now a major player in FinTech was reported as saying that her only fear was "not being fast enough" in the Greater Bay Area's fast-paced digital world. PingAn Cloud Accelerator, a BritCham GD member, is helping tech companies accelerate in Shenzhen and contributing to that growth. Several large corporations including HSBC and PingAn have committed large sums of money for risky investments in technology like facial recognition, Al and blockchain to drive innovation and collaboration - which looks to be paying off with mass adoption. Even with the current macroeconomic concerns, FinTech remains one of fastest growing industries as people place their money in the next and 5th 'Industrial Revolution'.

We at BritCham GD have incorporated multiple social and training events surrounding GBA policy and modern digital marketing in order to help navigate this evolving and highlighted region. We hosted the 'GBA Symposium' in June 2019 along with a yet to be rescheduled Tech & Innovation Symposium for Shenzhen in 2020. Under the GBA, whilst Guangzhou will become the administrative region; Shenzhen will be designated as the innovation hub. In 2020, BritCham Guangdong is officially launching a "Start-Up" membership category for qualifying start-up businesses.

Total investment activity (VC, PE and M&A) in fintech 2013–2018



Figure 1: Total Investment Activity in Fintech

Continuing GBA Trends

China's 3-year-plan, Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) and the Greater Bay Area's action plans have led to the government's long-lasting laissez faire policies with FinTech, promoting its accelerated glocalization with a digitally savvy population.

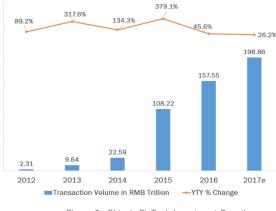


Figure 2 : China's FinTech Investment Growth

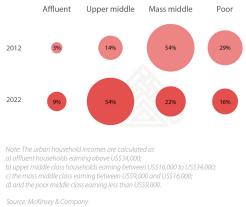


Figure 3: China's 49% Worldwide Dominance in Blockchain

Despite outlawing cryptocurrencies, the Chinese government invests heavily in blockchain due to its regional potential and as a solution to GBA's 'one country, two systems' challenge with Hong Kong and Macao. The Bay Trade Finance Blockchain Platform, an example out of 6 blockchain projects, was created by multiple Chinese banks in partnership with Ping An to facilitate 'trade and finance activities' between the GBA. BritCham Guangdong believes this will help facilitate more seamless transactions between the GBA and other countries with unstable currencies in Africa strengthening China's trade reach-as well as potential alternative ways for British and other foreign businesses to facilitate their funding and movement of funds.



China's Middle Class as Percent of Urban Households



As the Chinese central and provincial governments steadily moves forward with the GBA, we are expected to see increasing collaborations between leading Chinese FinTech players and banks to create an even larger, more supportive and customer-based financial ecosystem. Can BritCham members take advantage of this in their cross-border payments, especially those in supply chain management.



BritCham GD Business Events

Business Luncheon with Richard Burn

The British Chamber was invited to a specially arranged luncheon hosted by Ms Jo Hawley, Consul General, British Consulate-General Guangzhou, with special guests, Richard Burn (Her Majesty's UK Trade Commissioner to China) and Josh Lewsey (Ernst & Young Business Services' GBA Project Head) to discuss growth, trends and impacts on bilateral trade between the United Kingdom (UK) and China. We invited 6 Chamber members to attend this and to share their challenges with Richard their challenges when operating in the region and to obtain key insights for business growth.





FOOD2CHINA Expo

As a part of the "#FoodIsGreat Campaign", driven exclusively by the DIT to promote British brands and products from different sectors in the global market - we set up a pavilion showcasing three of our F&B partners' products for promotions amongst professional visitors, distributors, buyers and other key stakeholders. In addition, BritCham Guangdong took up this opportunity to widen and diversify our membership for potential cooperation opportunities in the future. As a 2020 outlook, we look forward to accelerating the food and drink industry within the GBA by via cornerstone events like these.

GBA Symposium

There has been excitement ever since the Greater Bay Area (GBA) blueprint came out in the February 2019, so on the lips of many of our members was 'what next?'. In this event, we invited some of the most influential speakers from our member community – companies who were leading in the development and build out of the plan for their industries. We invited Savills, KPMG, Nord Anglia Education, Stephenson Harwood and Arup to speak, along with special guest speaker Mr Li Feng from Guangzhou government department InvestGZ. These speakers from real estate, education and law took the attendees on tour of key trends, policy changes and potential business opportunities. The event attracted positive feedback and was an example of the timely sharing of information on a key new initiative having potentially profound effects on business and our members.



From this event came a demand for more, so in 2020 we have a GBA Technology & Innovation Symposium to be held in Shenzhen and one more in Foshan to understand more about advanced manufacturing for our members.

China-Britain Evening Receptions

On Friday 13th December 2019, a very resourceful evening was held at The Residence of Ms Jo Hawley, Consul General, British Consulate-General Guangzhou, which was attended by a handful our members invited by our Executive Manager, William Sung and Ms Jo Hawley. These members were selected to best collectively represent the UK and commercial and investment opportunities between the two countries. The main purpose was to pool Chinese companies with investments in the UK along with Chinese companies looking to invest in the UK by the United Kingdom's Department of International Trade (DIT); enhancing trade relationship between the next largest Bay Area and the UK whilst simultaneously helping us widen our network as we do with our members. It was also an opportunity to expose our Chamber members to the diverse group of businessmen and women sharing similar goals and vision – this coincided with The Residence Christmas tree lighting which brought a much-appreciated festive touch to the event.

FORTUNE: Global Tech Forum 2019



This was the first time Fortune Magazine had invited Britcham Guangdong to attend a major event in Guangzhou. We thank Fortune Magazine for their generous invite – which resulted in 10 of our larger MNC, tech-focused or innovation-focused members in attendance.

A very well-attended forum, with a stellar line up of speakers from across the world. An excellent opportunity to get up-to-speed on the world of tech in China and for networking with captains of industry – including Huawei 5G Chairman, Guangzhou Pharmaceutical, Sequoia Capital, Amazon Web Services (AWS) and many more.

Topics discussed were the Greater Bay Area, future of FinTech, 5G, blockchain, transport systems, retail and cloud-based services in China, particularly the GBA.

We have been using highly insightful events like these to guide BritCham GD into the diversification of its services to constantly grow our network for our members. The event also saw William Sung, our Executive Manager, speaking with Fortune's Alan Murray to explore an opportunity in hosting another Fortune event in Guangzhou where BritCham GD & members would be speakers along with the UK's DIT team; we look forward to progressing that opportunity in 2020 when Fortune Magazine next come to town.

Women in Business Forum

We at BritCham Guangdong passionately believe that inclusivity and equality are essential for a socio-economically thriving economy. Every year, we invite women leading in their own respective industries to share their insightful, inspiring and unique stories; allowing participants to listen to them talk, discuss with them and expand their business networks. One of our main annual events that has been running successfully for just under a decade now welcoming 200 guests each year hosted at our member's hotel Hilton Shekou in Shenzhen. The theme for 2019 was "balance for better". The issue of "balance" is a worldwide business issue and the topic was very well received by our members and the public. Our guest speakers ranged from start-ups in fashion and fitness, to seasoned writers and financial professionals – a common theme was making lemonade when life presents you with lemons; and a real story from battling back from cancer to create an online fitness business. Women being able to balance their lives and businesses in today's constantly-changing world.

LEAN N Guangzhou

In 2020, the Chamber aims to ensure balance in every event we host and we hope to increasingly partner up with female leadership organisations, such as LeanIn Guangzhou, to deliver a range of similar events across the GBA.





Networking & Social Events

British Day - Guangzhou & Shenzhen

Aptly dubbed BritCham GD's most glamorous event; 5000+ guests joined us as we hosted this annual event for the ninth time celebrating the best of British culture and diversity in the Guangdong since 2010. We host this event twice a year; the first in Shenzhen (springtime) and the second in Guangzhou (autumn time) – with fun and fanfare, there really is no other British cultural event like this. Consisting of a plethora of exciting games and stalls to the live bands to choirs to crazy hat competitions to raffles; mark your calendars and get ready for our largest ever British Day in 2020!

The day not only brings together families, buts it's an opportunity for the British Community as a whole to come together; our booths are not only a fun engagement with the public, but also a great way to bring companies closer to their end consumers.

BritCham Business Referrals: Guangzhou and Shenzhen

Aimed specifically at helping our members meet like-minded individuals, network and develop business opportunities together. These events are one of our most popular for good reason: it allows the participants to produce a rapid fire 3-minute presentation on their business – what the company does, what it has to offer and what they require, essentially enabling businesses to fill in their gaps meet potential lifelong partners. Whether you're new start-up or a seasoned captain of industry – we highly recommend you keep an eye out for our referral events, fast feedback on the day suggest that there is tremendous value coming out during the session. And in 2020, we asked our members how we should make this more effective and when, where feedback suggests there is an ambition to bring this to a grander scale through a convention style event along with smaller ice-breaker themed events for the increased number of new joiners to our Chamber – it's in plan and we look forward to experimenting with the feedback you give us!



Outlook for 2020

In 2019 our focus was to be able to join the dots more for our members, this meant reach out to al our members in a more empathetic way, appreciated more of the industry trends on some of the key grow ing sectors in the Guangdong region, were more joined up with our other business community associations across China and Hong Kong, along with inviting members to business luncheons and evening receptions hosted by the British Consulate. We pivoted our operating model to hire someone a manager in Shenzhen to focus on this major city, along with 2 dedicated team members in Guangzhou; in doing so we are able to have more quality around member care and helps us design a program of events that are dedicated by what you're telling us.

In 2020 we expect that to continue, and with BritCham Guangdong we look to support and respond based on your needs as a member, with the joining the dots mantra, we intend to be more business-savvy and to do more meaningful & relevant events. We aim to provide a suite of services to all corporate and individual members, and introduce a new member category for Start-Ups'. We started to partner more 2019Q4 with other media and business associations, so in 2020 we can leverage and do more with less effort to bring you a wider scope of industry activity.



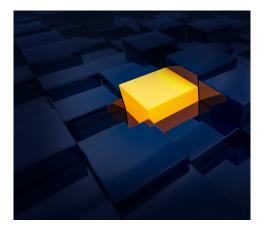
As a Chamber, our industry peers have said we need to be - more Agile

- more engaged and to motivate our members
- leverage more Technology
- more targeted

With these in mind, BritCham GD will in 2020 be switching to using Event Bank to manage our events, helping you as a member to reduce paper work and have a one-click event registration process; we shall be hosting more webinars and online interactive events; and be more targeted with our focus groups so that we have the experts provide some drive of our initiatives.

From 1st April 2020, only our corporate membership price increases to 6000rmb, all other membership fees have no change. We believe that the British Chamber of Commerce Guangdong provides a valuable networking and industry service which is unrivalled in the region. We'll also be introducing a new Start-Up category along with other membership programs that reward member loyalty.

2020 Focus



Our goal for 2020, is to be more involved in Technology & Innovation and aid firms in finding their right match for banking, consultancy, management services and advanced manufacturing through our social events, referrals and vast network of China-wide professionals. Armed with three leading FinTech members - PingAn Cloud Accelerator, CreditEase and AirWallex we aim to grow our FinTech community even more in 2020 by delivering focused events and leveraging the experts in this space. This is in particular important with relief policies and benefits for start-ups at the various city level in Shenzhen; understanding these may help that much needed lift for the 5000+ start-ups.

We already have a few focus groups that have been running in the Chamber focusing on particular industries – in 2019 we reformatted and refreshed the Education focus group with a new industry committee and new more relevant mandate. In 2020, along with a focus on Technology & Innovation, we shall be creating a specific focus group on the hospitality industry which makes up nearly 30% of our members. Working with the DIT F&B initiative group along with hosting round tables with our Hoteliers we want to be able to bring more voice and understanding on how to grow hospitality which has recently hit by the Covid-19 outbreak.





Member events are critical to ensuring we are fiercely connecting our BritCham GD community; that's not just our members, but the wider international business community in the Guangdong region. In 2020 we shall be bringing a few new events to our members; where some will be members only, others will be connecting to the wider community. The first will be an Exhibition Style convention where only our members have the privilege to set up stalls for pitching and panel discussions in a one day event. Our second designed event will be a renergised version of business referrals giving our new and renewal members to networking and matchmake. And finally, we want to be able to give our members access to our Executive Committee with a bi-monthly door knock to the Chairman.

Meet the BritCham Team

As for us at BritCham GD is important that we get to know you, it's also useful for you to know our team too, so that you can reach out to us, put a face to friend face that you see at our events, on through the various channels we are reaching out to you. Our team has grown a little in 2019 to cater for the needs of our members, running more than 50 events of varying sizes and pushing out the latest newsletters to you, lets start the 2020 year by saying a little hello.

Executive Team



Executive Manager



Jeremy Sargent Chairman



Mark Clayton Vice Chairman





Chris Chen Deputy Executive Manager



Echo Ji Events Manager



Lexy Chen Marketing & Communications

Membership Team



Eman Zou Membership Service, Guangzhou



Christy Leung Membership Service, Guangzhou Membership Service, Shenzhen



Vicky Luo



We look forward to working with you in 2020



BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GUANGDONG 广东英国商会

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Supporting **Members**





CLYDE&CO

Impact of the COVID-19

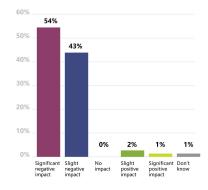
We wanted to quickly end our report with the devastating Covid-19 impact which has not just affected our businesses in China, but a big ripple effect on the world's global economy - the coronavirus which reportedly started in the city of Wuhan in Hubei province has shown how much the of the world's economies are interlinked to China's.

In early 2020 has witnessed a bumpy start with the overwhelming Coronavirus striking us unexpectedly. The British chambers of commerce in China conducted a survey of our members on the impact of the novel coronavirus pneumonia on their operations in China. The survey was conducted between Wednesday 5th February and Friday 7th February, and received responses from 126 British companies. Responses reflect the full range of British businesses of all sizes operating across a broad range of sectors.

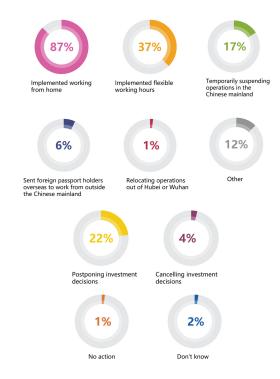
The survey found that:

- The coronavirus outbreak has caused severe disruptions to the operations of British business in China. 97% of respondents report a negative impact on their operation from the virus, with the majority (54%) experiencing a significant negative impact.
- These issues are being widely felt by companies in both goods and services industries and among businesses across the country. Companies are also experiencing general financial challenges(36%), costs from HR compliance (29%) and a shortage of necessary medical supplies (28%).
- Most companies expect business to return to normal by either the end of February (23%) or by the end of March (31%). Despite this, there is a considerable amount of uncertainty (27% report don't know) and a large proportion of companies(37%) nonetheless expect to reopen their offices on 10th February.
- Almost all businesses are implementing working from home and 37% are allowing for flexible working hours. A further 22% are postponing investment decisions and another 17% are temporarily suspending operations in China altogether. Of the companies that employ British nationals, relatively few are actively relocating them back to the UK (9%), but most are supporting the voluntary decisions of employees to work remotely out of the country.
- Two in five British businesses have already provided support to the government's efforts to contain the virus in Wuhan and Hubei. This has been in the form of medical equipment (13%), financial donations (12%) and business advice(8%).

TO WHAT EXTENT HAS THE OUTBREAK OF THE CORONAVIRUS IMPACTED YOUR OPERATIONS INTHE CHINESE MAINLAND SO FAR?



WHAT ACTIONS HAS YOUR ORGANISATION TAKEN OR IS CONSIDERING TAKING IN RESPONSE TO THECORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK?



BritCham GD Response

BritCham GD and all business during the period started to implement work-from-home policies and there was a mass adoption of companies stranded with employees not being able to return to their cities of work, lack of connectivity due to insufficient masks and laptops. There were many queries about Force Majeure, Labour laws, salary payments and tax - this meant that us as a Chamber had the responsibility make these more transparent to our members. We quickly created a series of useful and helpful suite of webinars with generous offers from our members across the region looking to shine a spotlight on these issues.

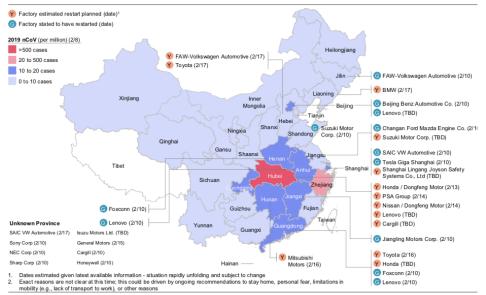


Online Migration

Due to this outbreak, millions of people began working from home, which has boosted the usage of videoconference calls and many downloads from VC providers. On 3rd February, 200 million people started to work remotely. This huge demand has called for more service providers with many offering free services during this week. Also, professional services providers have started to consider providing webinars to promote their business – such webinars and online engagements are also being planned within BritCham Guangdong. The available platforms include: Zoom, TalkLine, Tecent Meeting (腾讯会议), DingTalk (钉钉), Huawei WeLink, Wechat Work (企业微信).

At BritCham GD, we moved our Training Open Day to be a recorded webinar offering so our members could still be in touch with our training partners.

Road to recovery may be slow



There are a number of industries that have been affected, just o mention a few, our members Education industry, the global airline industry, tourism and lets not forget manufacturing, with the annual slow down China the factory of the world for the lunar festival, this year has seen a 3 week extension that has hit production of cars, mobile phones and clothing, hitting many retailers globally. We highlight just the car industry as a representation of the mass scale and the deep roots China has on the world economy.

Source: Japan Times, Automotive News Europe, Reuters, Xinhua Net, Expert interviews