

## Tbilisi 2018 and beyond

In line with the Guild's tradition to visit a city twinned with Bristol on a bi-annual basis, a group of Guardians set out in October 2018 on its first trip to Tbilisi in Georgia.

The trip included expert and informative guidance and trips within the city and beyond to learn



about its unique culture, history and business context. Reflecting the aims of the Guild to promote business and civic life, the Guild was able to establish a Business Conference supported by the British Embassy in Tbilisi and TBC Bank, where over 200 delegates participated. Presentations included ongoing technical and other developments within the region. The

educational links developing between UWE and Georgian universities and the challenges affecting all cities, including transportation, environment and the underprivileged.





Elected Mayor Marvin Rees and James Durie of Business West joined the Guardians for the latter part of the trip and were also able to make significant contacts with city and business representatives.

The Guild were able to have first hand experience of renowned Georgian hospitality with excellent food and wine experiences and cultural entertainment.



The finale of the trip was a reception held at the British Embassy in Tbilisi when the Bristol Room was formally inaugurated and which will become a significant meeting room for visitors within the Embassy.

Meaningful and ongoing relationships have been established.

