

# BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL

19<sup>th</sup> May 2011

## THE BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL HOSTS FIRST ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY FASHION AND TEXTILE GROUP CONFERENCE

The British Fashion Council (BFC) and Damian Collins MP hosted a presentation on London Fashion Week to an All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Fashion and Textiles. Members of Parliament and researchers from all political parties were invited to attend the event at the Burberry Global Headquarters at Horseferry House in Westminster. This was the first of a series of gatherings focused around different areas of the fashion industry to highlight its importance to the British economy. The event follows on from the launch of the Value of Fashion Report in September 2010 which highlighted the direct value of the UK fashion industry to the UK economy.

Speeches were given by Harold Tillman CBE, Chairman of the British Fashion Council and Damian Collins MP, Chair APPG Fashion and Textiles and the Conservative Arts and Creative Industries Network.

Damian Collins MP commented %There is growing recognition of the importance of the fashion industry to the creative economy of the UK. This is something we excel at, and fashion is an important export industry we should be proud of. I also want Members of Parliament to be aware of the breath of the industry from the catwalk to the factory floor and design studio. It was a great opportunity for us to launch this new all party group alongside the British Fashion Council and Burberry who have done so much, not just to promote their industry, but the country as well.+

Caroline Rush, Chief Executive of the British Fashion Council, commented %We hope to build upon the relationship between government and the fashion industry and find new opportunities to support future growth.+

For more information please visit [www.britishfashioncouncil.com](http://www.britishfashioncouncil.com)

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### **Editor's Notes**

1. The British Fashion Council (BFC) was set up in 1983 to promote British fashion internationally and co-ordinate this promotion through fashion weeks, exhibitions and showcasing events. The BFC now supports designers beginning at college level and extending to talent identification, business support and showcasing schemes to help British designer businesses develop their profiles and business globally and promote British fashion and its influential role in Creative Britain and Creative London. The BFC Colleges Council offers support to students through its MA Scholarship, links with industry through Design Competitions and Graduate Preview Day. Talent identification and business support schemes include the BFC/Elle Talent Launch Pad; BFC/Vogue Designer Fashion Fund; Estethica; Fashion Forward sponsored by Coutts & Co; NEWGEN sponsored by Topshop and NEWGEN MEN sponsored by TOPMAN. Showcasing initiatives include London Fashion Week, LONDON show ROOMS, the BFC/Harper& Bazaar Fashion Arts Foundation and the annual celebration of excellence in the fashion industry, the British Fashion Awards.