Chancellor Reeves agrees date for maiden City set-piece speech

Rachel Reeves, the chancellor, will deliver her maiden speech to Britain's most important annual gathering of financiers and business leaders in mid-November.

Sky News understands that the Treasury, Bank of England and the City of London Corporation have agreed to stage the Mansion House dinner on 14 November.

The dinner will come just over a fortnight after the chancellor delivers her inaugural budget.

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There are growing expectations in financial markets and the private sector that Ms Reeves will unveil substantial tax rises on 30 October.

On Thursday, she attacked the record of her Conservative predecessors, saying they had failed to prioritise investment in the UK economy.

"I am not going to make those mistakes," she said.

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The chancellor's reception at Mansion House will be dictated in large part by her decisions about taxing the wealthy, as well as any move to increase the tax burden on the banking industry.

She is expected to announce further details of the government's plans to accelerate pension fund reforms in the coming weeks, with measures potentially forming part of her Mansion House speech, according to officials.

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Earlier this week, Sky News revealed that Treasury officials were <u>drawing up plans for Ms Reeves to visit China</u> early next year, in order to participate in the first Economic and Financial Dialogue between the two countries since 2019.

A spokesperson for the Treasury declined to comment, while the City of London Corporation did not respond to messages.