Reflections on a City career

After nearly 26 years on the Court of Common Council representing the Ward of Coleman Street, I have decided that, after a good innings, it is time to step aside for new and younger talent.

I therefore handed in my resignation after the last Court meeting and I am now officially just a member of the public.

My interest in all things City stems from my initial introduction when I became a stockbroker’s messenger in 1963. Despite all the upheavals over that time I have remained in continuous employment, although some of the names have changed!

Standing for election to the Court was a natural extension of my strong interest in promoting and defending what I still believe is the world’s leading international financial centre.

Although I have sat on many Committees, my Chairmanship of the Planning and Transportation Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee were the high points.

Both were very relevant to building the competitive position of the City through permitting and promoting the development of offices that were required by the large international financial firms. The Policy role was to interact with our domestic politicians, I saw two Parliaments in my time, and overseas particularly in Europe, USA, India and China.

A long and very interesting career which I am sad to leave. I wish all my colleagues in the Ward the very best for the future. Coleman Street is a “business” ward and the threats to our future are perhaps as dangerous today as they have ever been.

Stuart Fraser CBE

From a stockbroker’s messenger to public service

25 years service is notable indeed and Coleman Street has benefited from a committed City person who has seen a few economic crises as well as sustained upturns. Stuart has responded to the call on many occasions whether it be on Planning or Policy (which included the Great Credit Crunch) but in addition he covered the educational side of the City Corporation’s activities – Freeman’s School, Guildhall School of Music & Drama and the academies.

Supported by his dedicated and talented wife Laura, Stuart has contributed hugely to Coleman Street’s role in City affairs and will be missed by those who have enjoyed his friendship for so long. In the Ward we all wish him a swift return to full health and many happy travels in his retirement.

Michael Cassidy
The ninth ‘edition’ of Sculpture in the City returns to the Square Mile at the end of June.

Each year the exhibition showcases contemporary works from internally renowned artists across the City’s public spaces. Sculpture in the City is free and accessible all year round. It is delivered by the City of London Corporation in partnership with Aon, Aviva, Beaumont, Bloomberg, British Land, Brookfield, CC Land, Generali, Hiscox, Nuveen Real Estate, Tenacity, Tower 42 and Twentytwo.

Image shows Bridging Home by Do Ho Suh, who responded to the migrant history of the East End and the City with this ambitious commission installed on the footbridge over Wormwood Street. It is a to-scale replica of Suh’s childhood home, a traditional Korean house.

More information sculptureinthecity.org.uk @sculpturecity

Status check

If you’re an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, you and your family can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 30 June 2021. It’s free to apply to the scheme.

Except in a few cases, you need to apply if:
• you’re an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen
• you’re not an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, but your family member is
• The EEA includes the EU countries and also Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

This means you need to apply even if you:
• were born in the UK but are not a British citizen – you can check if you’re a British citizen if you’re not sure
• have a UK ‘permanent residence document’
• are a family member of an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen who does not need to apply – including if they’re from Ireland
• are an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen with a British citizen family member.

If your application is successful, you’ll get either settled or pre-settled status. The EU Settlement Scheme is open.

You can apply now if you meet the criteria. You will need to be living in the UK before it leaves the EU to apply. You do not need to apply if you have indefinite leave to enter the UK, indefinite leave to remain in the UK or have British or Irish citizenship (including ‘dual citizenship’).

The deadline for applying is 30 June 2021.

www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families
One door closes...

Snow Hill Police Station will close this summer almost 100 years after it first opened.

It has been home to many police and support teams since 1926. At present, finance, HR and Community Policing teams are among those based there. The building, owned by the City of London Corporation, is an underutilised asset and in need of much modernisation. As with many police forces in the UK, the City of London Police continues to face budgetary constraints, and after a review of its policing footprint in the City, the decision was taken to close this station.

The City Police and City Corporation are working together on an ambitious plan to build a state-of-the-art police station and court complex near Fleet Street. This space will be designed to house the various teams needed to deliver a cohesive modern policing service for the City’s communities.

Following the closure of Snow Hill, the nearest City of London Police station will be Wood Street, a 1-minute walk away. You can also continue to report crimes online or call 101 or 999 in an emergency, or reach us via our website cityoflondon.police.uk

The level of service the City Police offers the City’s communities will not be affected by the closure and if you have any concerns or issues you wish to raise in relation to it, please email community@cityoflondon.pnn.police.uk

All charged up

Three brand new fully electric vehicles are joining the City of London Corporation’s fleet, bringing the organisation a step closer to realising its goal of being the first authority to run a fully zero-emission fleet.

The EV80 will help the City Corporation deliver some of its key services across London. The vehicles will service the Barbican Library in the Square Mile, the City of London Cemetery and Crematorium in Manor Park and the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre at Heathrow Airport.

The EV80 is the first fully electric vehicle launched as part of Heathrow LDV’s range of commercial vehicles. It boasts a 120-mile range on a single charge and, thanks to its high-capacity lithium battery, can be fully charged in less than 90 minutes.

The vehicles, which are Ultra Low Emission Zone compliant and designed for urban driving, are already being used by delivery and utility companies, together with selected city councils across the country.

The vehicles are fitted with an award-winning Brigade Quiet Vehicle Sounder and white noise reversing rear for enhanced pedestrian and cyclist safety. Full driver training will be provided to City Corporation staff by the team at Heathrow LDV.

In April this year the City of London Corporation awarded a pioneering new tech-driven waste collection, street cleansing and ancillary services contract to Veolia – covering the Square Mile. As part of the contract, the City Corporation aims to become the first authority in the UK to run a fully electric fleet of Refuse Collection Vehicles.
Want to meet other people in Coleman Street Ward?

It can often seem like we just come to the City of London to work – but that doesn’t have to be true! Completely non-political, the Coleman Street Ward Club, is a social club for those living, working, and with an interest in, the Ward of Coleman Street and the City of London more widely.

Holding regular events and gatherings, you can attend as many or as little as you want - the main aim is to relax and meet new people!

For more information and upcoming events including the Caribbean Cook-Up Summer Garden Party on Tuesday 11th June where you can meet Michael Khan, the new Club Chairman and other members, visit https://www.colemanstreet.org/

From all in Coleman Street Ward, we wish you a sunny and relaxing Summer!