

LIVERY BRIEFING

October 2024



All change at the Livery Committee - Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

At the recent Livery Committee meeting, Julia Sibley MBE, Past Master Innholder, was elected to the Chair, having served as Deputy for the previous three years; and Philip Woodhouse was elected as the Deputy Chair.

Message from the Chair and Deputy Chair

Dear Liverymen,

Welcome to the latest Livery Briefing.

As I am sure you all know, the Livery Committee's primary role is to manage the running of Common Hall, and recently on Monday 30 September we saw Alderman Alistair King DL elected by the Livery to be the 696th Lord Mayor of the City of London (for the year 2024-2025). The Lord Mayor-Elect's speech will shortly be available on the Livery Committee website. The Lord Mayor-Elect will take office on 8 November at the Silent Ceremony at Guildhall, followed by the Lord Mayor's Show on 9 November, marking the outset of another busy and productive Mayoral year.

The Lord Mayor-Elect will be joined during his year by the two newly admitted Sheriffs, Alderman Greg Jones KC and David Chalk. We offer them our warmest congratulations and wish them all every success during their respective years.

Philip did so much for the Livery as Chair of this Committee over the last three years, for which we are very grateful. The members of the Committee thanked him on behalf of all Liverymen, and the text of that Vote of Thanks is shown on the Livery Committee website.

Continuing with the 'thank you' theme, we would also like to say a huge "thank you" to those whose term of office on the Committee has drawn to a close, namely Charlie Knaggs (Ironmongers) who has served a full three years on the Committee; and David Barrett (Renter Warden of the Worshipful Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers), having been co-opted since 2016.

We would draw your attention to the new Court of Aldermen 2024-2025 guide that the Deputy Town Clerk referred to in his speech at Common Hall. Hot off the press, it is an excellent read! It can be found on the website here.

Please do contact us if you have news items for the website and we also commend to you the various courses that are run for you, details of which can be found on the courses page of the Livery Committee website as well as being listed below.

With very best wishes,

Julia Sibley and Philip Woodhouse.

Dates of importance

City Briefings, [6 November](#), [10 February 2025](#), [15 May 2025](#), [11 September 2025](#)

Garden of Remembrance, [4 November](#)

Clerks' Forum, [22 January 2025](#)

Upcoming events

Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG) Conference 2024 - 'Planning for a Resilient Future' - 22 October

The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli will throw down the opening challenge and Delegates will then:

- Explore the issues and risks that we face;
- Consider whether planned innovative solutions will be effective;
- Debate how we need to adapt to the different impacts of climate change.

A range of speakers will discuss:

- Building resilience around waste;
- Conserving water as supplies reduce;
- Generating green energy affordably;
- Maintaining biodiversity as climate change threatens habitats;
- Ensuring future skills needs are met.

LCAG will partner with London school students who will provide their insights and hopes for a resilient future. This Conference is open to all, and we welcome Livery Companies, City businesses, SMEs, faith communities and all interested individuals. The event will be held in the magnificent, historic, Merchant Taylors' Hall starting with a light buffet lunch with networking and stalls. Following the inspiring presentations and panel

discussions, there will be further opportunities for networking and conversations over drinks and canapes. Standard ticket price £90 and tickets are available to [purchase online](#). Full details of the conference programme will be published nearer the date.

Alderman Alison Gowman, Chair of the Livery Climate Action Group

Livery ED&I (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) Course

The Livery Committee ran its first ED&I course on 12 September. This programme was intended for any member or officer of a Livery Company or Guild; in particular, those who were members of a committee which had responsibility for ED&I within their company or had a specific interest in the topic. The objectives of the programme were to promote, champion and encourage equity, diversity and inclusion throughout the Livery Companies; and to help embed the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion through the Livery movement. The outcomes of the half day programme included capturing the understanding that many Livery Companies wish to explore some further options, learn more and understand ED&I better. Overall, the subsequent feedback received has been very positive, with the content being well received and deemed to be very useful and informative. It was agreed that this sort of programme is essential if the Livery movement were to remain relevant and sustainable, going forward. Ideally, budgets permitting, the Livery Committee hope to offer this 'introductory' programme at least twice a year to help build the foundations. Thereafter, a follow up course would be developed.

City Belonging Project

During his Mayoral year, Lord Mayor-Elect Alderman Alastair King will champion the successes of diverse communities across the Square Mile. He has put his full support behind the City Belonging Project, a City Corporation initiative supporting and improving the links between diversity networks across City workplaces. Since its launch last summer, more than 2,000 people have signed up to the City Belonging Project and it has created or promoted more than 100 events to mark key moments such as Black History Month, International Women's Day, religious festivals and Pride. Over the coming year, working with the Lord Mayor, new inter-company networks for City workers will be convened for particular communities, such as for faith groups, LGBTQ+, military veterans and more. These networks will be supported in holding a programme of events and fostering a community network. If your Livery Company would like to collaborate in this work, please email belonging@cityoflondon.gov.uk and sign up for updates at the [belonging project website](#). 22 January 2025

Forthcoming City Elections

4 November - Stand for the City - Prospective candidate reception

If you care about the City – and want to step into a leadership role to represent its workers, residents and interests – you should consider standing for election to the City of London Corporation. We need people from all professions and backgrounds, who reflect the City we serve, to put themselves forward for election. Please join us for a reception to hear from some of our current members and learn more about becoming a candidate in the upcoming City of London elections. For more information and to RSVP, visit the [Stand for the City Reception webpage](#).

30 November - Deadline to be registered as a voter

Next March, we will elect 100 Councillors to run the City Corporation. Uniquely, both City residents and workers are able to vote and stand for election, if registered by the 30 November deadline. Workplaces are responsible for submitting the registration form: you can request a vote, share materials with colleagues and find out more on the [Speak for the City website](#). It's important that everyone is made aware of their right to register and that no-one loses their right to vote because they weren't aware they had one.

Lord Mayor's Programme

Visit to Sheffield - 25 July

At the end of July, the full civic party travelled to Sheffield for a visit organised by the Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire. Throughout the day they met the CEO of Sheffield Technology Park, a hub for Tech firms and scale-ups, then toured the Sheffield Museum's 'Show your Metal' exhibition. Later that afternoon they visited local businesses, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress meeting the team at ITM Power, who produce green hydrogen via proton exchange membrane (PEM) electrolyzers; and Sheffield Forgemasters a global leader in steel production and engineering. The Sheriffs and consorts engaged with the leaders of W Cook Cast Products, Swann Morton, Kitlocker and the Sheffield Assay Office. The visit concluded with the annual Forfeit Feast at which Regional Mayors, two inward investment delegations from the U.S. and several UK investment guests were present, hearing speeches delivered by the Master Cutler and Lord Mayor.

Economic Crime Symposium - 1 September

In early September, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress attended the 41st International Symposium on Crime at Jesus College, University of Cambridge. The theme for this year's Symposium was Suspect Assets. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress attended the dinner on Sunday night before the Lord Mayor formally opened the Symposium on the Monday morning. In his speech, the Lord Mayor discussed the threat economic crime poses to economic stability, highlighted the work of the City of London Police, and the need for collaboration and proactive action.

Paschal Donohoe Event - 3 September

The Lord Mayor and the City of London Corporation invited Irish Minister Paschal Donohoe, President of the Eurogroup, to deliver a keynote address to the financial services sector. The Lord Mayor gave welcome remarks, before inviting Francesca Carlesi UK CEO of Revolut to introduce the Minister. Minister Donohoe's speech covered the international role of the Euro, the EU's Capital Markets Union, and EU-UK relations, and was followed by questions from the audience. The event concluded with a small dinner held at Mansion House.

Pepys Day- 6 September

The City of London celebrated its first Pepys Day. The many places, people and incidents from Pepys' life were showcased with guided walks by City Guides, which concluded with a toast at Mansion House. Both the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress participated in the day and along with sold out tours, learnt about Samuel Pepys himself, his diary and the Great Fire of London.

Meeting with HE The Ambassador of Tajikistan - 6 September

The Lord Mayor met the Ambassador of Tajikistan, who has now been in the UK for three years. They discussed investment into Tajikistan, including its high potential sectors such as hydropower and minerals.

Lord Mayor's visit to Vietnam and Laos 14 - 21 September

The Lord Mayor conducted a four-day visit to Vietnam (one day in the economic capital Ho Chi Minh City and three days in the political capital Hanoi) - the first Mayoral visit in a decade. Engagement focused on the development of Vietnam as an international financial centre, the regulation of Artificial Intelligence and the education links between the UK and Vietnam. The Lord Mayor, as Rector of City St Georges University, signed a Memorandum Of Understanding with the British University of Vietnam and the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City for increased collaboration in higher education.