

LIVERY COMMITTEE BRIEFING

Fourth edition: February 2008



1. FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the Fourth Briefing of the Livery Committee. This edition outlines the issues considered at the 13th February meeting.

Since the last meeting in September, I have continued to speak to the Courts of Livery Companies about the work of the Livery Committee and I am happy to continue to do this. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Louise Hart if you would like me to speak to your Court. I continue to be impressed by the initiatives of Livery Companies in helping the Mayoralty – the work of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies. The Marketors' Company producing a helpful booklet on Narrative Reporting for Company Annual reports.

As I have said before, should you have any comments or suggestions on how this briefing can be improved, please contact our Clerk, Louise Hart – on 02073321399 or louise.hart@cityoflondon.gov.uk

2. STEPS TO BECOMING A COMMON COUNCILMAN OR ALDERMAN

Alderman Alison Gowman was thanked for producing a paper on the procedural steps involved in standing for election to Common Council and the Court of Aldermen.

This paper was distributed at the Clerk's Briefing in December. However, should you require a further copy, please contact the Clerk to the Livery Committee, Louise Hart, or go to the Clerks Section of the Fishmongers' website: www.fishhall.co.uk

3. WORLD CLASS CITY MANAGEMENT COURSE

Considerable thought has been given to the three Briefings that the Livery Committee helps to run, namely the City

Briefings, the Clerks Briefing and the World Class City Management Course.

After discussion at the Communications Working Group and with the concurrence of the Livery Committee, the format of the World Class City Management Course has been changed and will now run over one day rather than a series of consecutive evenings.

This one day course is aimed at Liverymen who wish to progress within their companies or become involved in City Governance.

The agenda for the course has also been revised and will now include briefings on, amongst other things, the Role of the Lord Mayor and policy of the City of London Corporation.

Subject to diary commitments, it is hoped that the Lord Mayor will brief delegates together with senior Members of Common Council and various Chief Officers of the City of London Corporation.

4. LIVERY PROFILE III

The Chairman thanked Edward Windsor-Clive for his contribution in producing the data for Livery Profile III and also thanked the Mercers' Company for paying for the printing costs.

Should you like further copies of Livery Profile III, please contact Kate Copeland at the Mercers' Company on: katec@mercers.co.uk or 020 7776 7242.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

It was reported to the Committee that the term of office of the following Committee members is due to expire later this year. Philip Willoughby, Thomas Hoffman, Raymond Cousins, Christopher Hodgkinson, Brian Plummer and Edward Windsor-Clive.

It was noted that all members are eligible for reappointment with the exception of Philip Willoughby and Raymond Cousins who have already served the maximum of two terms.

6. COMMON HALL ARRANGEMENTS

There was some discussion at the meeting about whether the Clerks were

permitted to sit in the Minstrels Gallery to watch Common Hall proceedings.

The Town Clerk reported that during the Guildhall refurbishment works, capacity in the Great Hall was strictly limited and for that reason, the Minstrels Gallery was out of bounds and alternative seating was offered to the Clerks in the overflow seating area.

With the period of refurbishment now coming to an end, it was hoped that Clerks will now be able to return to view Common Hall proceedings from the Minstrels Gallery.

However, it should be noted that there is only room for approximately 25 people and so Clerks should not expect to be able to attend and view Common Hall year on year from the gallery.

8. MANSION HOUSE CATERING

Members of the Committee were informed about a recent "mystery shopper" exercise carried out at Mansion House over 2007 to provide feedback on the qualitative performance of Searcy's.

The Committee were informed that overall the feedback received had been very good. The Head of Operations at Mansion House, Andrew McKie, wished to place on record his sincere thanks to all those Livery Companies that had taken part in the exercise. Mr McKie stated that further feedback would be welcomed, particularly if it was specific, so that it could be addressed by Searcy's.

8. CITY BRIEFING PUBLICITY

Clerks may be interested to know that a "flyer" publicising the City Briefings has been produced and will now be given to all new Freemen by the Chamberlain's Court.

This has been attached and you may wish to display or circulate this to encourage members of your Livery Companies to attend this informative briefing.

GEOFFREY C. BOND, OBE, DL
Chairman