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May 2008



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To the Liverymen of the City of London

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen

Encouraged by many friends in the Livery, the City, the Court of Common Council and supported by The Master, Wardens and Court of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors, I offer myself as a candidate for the High Office of Sheriff of the City of London at the Election to be held in Common Hall at Guildhall on Tuesday 24th June 2008 at 12 noon. I invite you to use one of your two votes in support of me and the other in support of Alderman Roger Gifford.

Educated in Scotland, I embarked on a career as a Chartered Surveyor and became a Fellow of the Royal Institution in 1974. I spent 14 years in Glasgow - ultimately running the business of Richard Ellis there - before joining them in the City in 1979. This background, coupled latterly with 16 years as a partner in Drivers Jonas, introduced me at an early stage to the major City businesses, thus gaining a full understanding of all the various markets, the institutions, the Livery Companies and, of course, the City of London Corporation.

As a Liveryman of the Chartered Surveyors' Company, Master in 2002 -2003, I have been able to play my full part in representing the Livery's qualities of trust, fellowship and professionalism as part of the charitable and educational ethos. This has included service as a Governor of the City of London School for Girls, a trustee of Commonweal Housing, the Chartered Surveyors' Charitable Trusts, the Caledonian Club Charitable Trust and the Honourable the Irish Society.

My public service grew from Ward Club Chairman to being elected to the Court of Common Council in 1995 for the Ward of Cordwainer. I am a member of the Policy & Resources and City Lands and Bridge House Estates Committees, and Chairman of its Property Sub Committee; I also sit on the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee and the Safer City Partnership Board. I have served five years on the CBI London Council and, with key Members of Westminster, Southwark and Lambeth Councils, I am alternating Chairman of the Cross River Partnership and Cross River Tram Boards, helping regeneration south of the river.

I am delighted to have the enthusiastic support of my escort, Delva Patman, who is also a Past Master Chartered Surveyor and current Secretary of the Millennium Masters' Association. As Senior Partner of her own specialist surveying practice she has extensive knowledge of the City. She has been Vice President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, and is now Chairman of the College of Estate Management Board and the Estates Committee of Roedean School. She is an Honorary Air Commodore of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force and a member of the National Employers Advisory Board, the City Livery Club and Bishopsgate Ward Club.

Being close to the heart of City Government I am fully engaged in the process of maintaining its position as the world's leading business centre, and proud through my career to have had the chance to contribute over the years to creating its world-class built environment. To have the opportunity as a fellow Liveryman to support the Mayoralty in conveying the key messages here and elsewhere is something I relish.

I have the honour to be, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, your obedient Servant

George Gillon

Citizen and Chartered Surveyor