

Chairman's Speech – STEP AGM 2022

As my second year as Chair draws to a close, we are clearly continuing to operate in a new normal of distributed working across the industry. However, despite the restrictions and difficulties that the Covid-19 crisis has given us over the past 12 months, there are a lot of positives for STEP and the Jersey branch which I would like my report to focus on.

The committee continues to meet regularly with 9 meetings in the past 12 months some in person and some held virtually. In October we held our Annual International Conference back in person at the Pomme D'Or. It was great to be back in a room with people, to meet STEP colleagues, sponsors and speakers.

Over the past 12 months the branch has put on 10 CPD events, 6 in person and 4 through a webinar. These events demonstrate our continued commitment to keeping STEP members up to date with changes to legislation, regulation and industry practices including our ever popular regulatory event in April this year.

In November we held the 14th STEP Jersey Student Awards recognising the hard work, determination and achievement of those who study for the STEP professional examinations, ensuring Jersey has highly qualified trust practitioners. The Awards took place as a black tie event at the Royal Yacht Hotel and I am pleased to confirm the awards will again take place again this year.

Over the next few months we continue to host our CPD events including in October our International Annual Conference at the Pomme D'or hotel. The agenda includes some excellent speakers, lively panel sessions rounded up with networking drinks to close the conference.

Event registration for both the annual conference and the awards dinner is already open on Eventbrite.

STEP continues to increase its proactivity in dealing with the JFSC, JFL and Jersey Government thereby making a greater contribution to matters that impact our

industry. The technical sub-committee, established three years ago meets quarterly to support the branch in considering the technical developments in Jersey.

Additionally, many of our committee members sit on working groups for example, ESG, bank account opening, Jersey Data Protection and the trust law working party.

Sustainable finance continues to dominate conversations and together with Jersey Finance and JATCo STEP took part in the ESG masterclass for trustees event in March. This was a full morning session of speakers and panel session looking at the both the importance of ESG consideration for trustees from an environmental, legal and fiduciary perspective. Equilibrium Futures, are working with STEP to create a certified CPD course for Jersey and other IFC's. Such a course will undoubtedly be a costly one and they will be looking for sponsorship from local businesses but we believe will be incredibly incredible beneficial to members, their employers and Jersey.

Looking ahead, STEP Council are focusing on the STEP strategy over the next 5 years and have asked STEP members by providing feedback on the following questions

What might STEP look like in 2027?

What should STEP focus on?

What will be impacting our clients and our members' businesses over the next 5 years?

How should STEP adapt to best serve both members and their clients?

STEP is keen to engage all of its members with their strategy and feedback can be provided to Louise in the step office.

As I end my 2 year tenure as STEP Chair I would like to thank Louise in the STEP office for her hard work and support.

I would like to welcome new committee members, as well as the new Chair and take this opportunity to thank all the committee members and their employers for allowing them the opportunity to volunteer for the STEP Jersey branch. They have worked incredibly hard over the past 12 months to ensure the continued success of STEP and the branch for which I am very grateful for.

It has been a privilege to serve as the Chair for the last 2 years and I would like to thank the committee and STEP members for their support and encouragement they have provided me throughout.