

# **Election Statements – AGM Thursday 9th February 2023**

## **Board of Directors**

### **Ms Shiwani Bansal - (seeking election following co-option)**

I have been a member of the credit union for a number of years, and have been on the Board of Directors as a co-optee over the past six months. I strongly believe in the purpose of the credit union of serving the community with affordable credit, and helping members achieve their financial goals by encouraging them to save. I long to helping credit union in continuing achieve these goals. Therefore, I wish to stand for election as a Director.

I would like to draw your attention to my past experience. I was a volunteer in the London Capital Credit union back in 2010, then became a staff member and served for almost two years. Since then I have worked in different departments of a retail bank and gained risk management experience across credit, liquidity and capital. I believe I have acquired knowledge and skills to support credit union in maintaining its sustainability, growth and managing risk.

If elected as a Board member, it would be a great opportunity for me to give back to the community and help credit union in achieving its objectives, especially in the time like this when cost of living remains a challenge for our members.

### **Mr Chikezie Ekeanyanwu - (seeking election following co-option)**

I was co-opted to serve as a member of the London Capital Credit Union Board of Directors in early 2022 and I reside in Barnet. As a member of the Board, I bring my knowledge in strategy, business and finance to the Credit Union. This has been achieved by using my experience serving as a non-executive board member of a housing association, an advisor for businesses and working for over 20yrs in the City of London and other major financial centres within financial derivatives risk management technology for top tier investment banks, derivative exchanges and consultancy. I am now seeking your approval for election.

Understanding the current and future financial services needs of our Credit Union members, strategizing effective programs and plans that enable our members save, borrow responsibly and plan for the future is a great opportunity for me to continue serving on the Board, supporting our members, and benefiting our wider community.

Being a member of the Board of a Credit Union that addresses the financial needs of its members by providing affordable and reliable financial services, makes me proud to have a part in its efforts; as it creates an environment where everyone is enabled to grow and thrive. I seek your support to continue in this role.

**Mr Jeffrey Hopwood - (seeking election following co-option)**

I was co-opted as a director of London Capital in 2022 following the merger with North London Credit Union, where I had been a director for 3 years. I am seeking election at this AGM, as I am keen to fully see through the post-merger integration. From what I have seen since August London Capital is a very well run and managed organisation, with a board of directors who bring a range of relevant skills and experience to assist the management team and I think I can continue to add value to the Board.

I recognise and appreciate the support that the credit union provides for its members and the efforts that are being made to help people avoid entering into high risk borrowing from unregulated organisations and high-cost credit providers.

Before I retired, I worked in local government in north London for 20 years delivering regeneration programmes and supporting voluntary and community sector organisations and groups. Prior to that, I worked in the City financial markets for 20 years for international banks. I hope I will have your support.

**Mr Peter Lovell - (seeking election following co-option)**

I am the former Chief Executive of North London Credit Union, an organisation with which I was involved for over thirty years. A founder-member and director, I returned to run the organisation 12 years ago, when I sold a private car hire company I owned. For the last four years, although working almost full-time in the credit union, I have done so as an unpaid volunteer.

Whilst North London Credit Union was solvent and popular with its members, it was finding difficulty in expanding to a size where it was sustainable in the long term. We had co-operated with LCCU for many years, and felt this larger unit would be better able to serve our members in the long term; so initiated discussions which resulted in a merger of the two credit unions.

I have had a varied business career, working in import-export, publishing, construction, and holding management positions with two banks. I was managing director and majority shareholder of Barfield Group, a highly successful training and consultancy company employing 55 staff in five offices, including one in Moscow. Prior to that, I held senior positions with the Barnet Enterprise Trust and London Enterprise Agency; both not-for-profit bodies engaged in regeneration and reducing unemployment.

I was for many years Treasurer of the London and South-East Forum of the Association of British Credit Unions (ABCUL), and am a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. I was awarded the MBE in January 2015 for my commitment to business development and financial inclusion in north London. I seek your support for election to the Board.

### **Mr Michael McGowan- (seeking election following co-option)**

I joined a credit union last century to save regularly at a time I was “just managing”. I later took out a loan from that CU to enable me to complete my studies to become a barrister and also became a director of North London Credit Union where I was able to use my legal knowledge to help settle a legal issue.

I am now retired and comfortably off but have been able as a volunteer at an advice centre to assist benefit seekers and people with excessive debt to improve their lives by obtaining income they are entitled to and rearranging their debts. I may be able to contribute something useful as a director of the combined business.

### **Mr Edmund Pringle - (seeking election following co-option)**

I am a software engineer working for Microsoft and a keen amateur musician, having lived in Enfield for the last 20 years. I was on the board of North London Credit Union for several years, providing expertise as we improved online services – and was chair of the board at the point that we merged with London Capital Credit Union in August 2022. I wish to stand for election to the LCCU board so that I can provide that same expertise going forwards.

I see the credit union movement as filling a critical role for those ignored and let down by the wider banking industry, and I’m keen to help us offer a range of fair and ethical options for saving, borrowing and financial education. I also want to see us use new technologies so members are not disadvantaged compared to those of the traditional financial services industry and if elected will do everything I can to help LCCU provide the best possible services to its members.

## **Supervisory Committee**

### **Ms Brenda Cossio (seeking re-election)**

I hold a BA degree in Business Management and currently finalising my ACCA chartered accountancy qualification. I have previously worked as an internal auditor in the Treasury of Mexico and as a manager in a major international retail bank. I now work in the Chancellery Department of the Mexican Embassy in London.

I have been volunteering in the Credit Union since 2009, initially as a finance assistant and from 2010 as a Chair of the Supervisory Committee. Our role is to safeguard the members’ money and to make sure that the Credit Union operates in accordance with adequate rules and procedures.

I remain very excited about volunteering at the Credit Union because of the magnificent help that it brings to the families and the community. The role of the Credit Union is vital, especially in the current economic climate. I truly believe that

the work of the Credit Union changes lives and helps to bring prosperity of the community.

For these reasons, I wish to be re-elected into the Supervisory Committee and hope to have your support.