

## Hon. Ronald Arthur Coleman

I was successfully elected to Legislative Council for the first time on 13 October 2021.

Before that I had completed almost 34 years with the Public Service, first trained as an Electrician and then as a Design Draughtsman and Land Surveyor. I later became the islands first Building Inspector in 1986 working in the Environmental Health Services and then in 1991 I became the islands first Physical Planning Officer, being the principal advisor to the Planning and Development Control Authority.

I later changed my Career and was successful to head the Employment and Social Security Department, which I thoroughly enjoyed, looking after the most vulnerable on the island and managing the benefits system, etc.

My final time in the Public Service before taking early retirement was spent as Postmaster General and one of the main roles was creating stamps for St Helena, which was very challenging.

During my time in the Public Service I had the opportunity to attend several overseas training programs with Bute Partnership, studying Quantity Surveying and Estimating, Building Control with Watford Borough Council which included the study of building material with John Laing. Also at South Hams District Council under-studying Forward Planning and Development Control.

On leaving the Public Service I worked for 6 months at SHAPE teaching Life Skills to adults with disabilities.

From 2012 I moved to the Private Sector, managing the Star for Solomon & Company (PLC) which was another great experience, meeting all types of people with different expectations.

I also had the privilege of serving on the Building and Planning Authorities, the Highways and Electricity Authorities. I was one of the founder members of the Millennium Forest Group, the National Trust and SHAPE. I was also Chairman of the Diabetic Association and a member of the Farmers Association, and Levelwood Community Association.

Another privilege was serving as Justice of the Peace and Commissioner for Oaths for some 21 years before becoming a Councillor.

Amongst the things one chooses to do with their life, being a Councillor is a real reward, especially giving back to the island and its people, for the tough and wonderful life I was privileged to have had and is still having with my family and friends and the people around me.