

London Evening Standard

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WEST END FINAL

CAMERON LAUNCHES EUROPE FIGHTBACK

POUND PLUNGES AS CITY WARNS BREXIT COULD PUT BRITAIN'S CREDIT RATING AT RISK

Joe Murphy, Nicholas Cecil and Joseph Watts

DAVID CAMERON vowed to fight "passionately" to stay in the European Union today as fears of a Brexit triggered a plunge in the pound.

Sterling suffered its biggest one-day fall in over a year as investors showed their nerves that the "Boris Effect" had dramatically increased the chances of Britain leaving the EU.

An exclusive poll reveals the first evidence that the Mayor's electrifying intervention on the side of the Leave campaign has already thrown the referendum result into doubt.

Early findings from the BMG Research survey, for the Evening Standard, suggest that up to nine per cent of the electorate are willing to change their minds on the strength of what Mr Johnson says. It leaves the referendum, timed for June 23, on a knife edge.

Credit rating agency Moody's also dealt a blow to the Brexit campaign by warning that Britain might put its credit rating on a "negative outlook" if it left the EU.

In a Commons statement this afternoon, a defiant Prime Minister was fighting back. "I believe Britain will be stronger, safer and better off by remaining in a reformed EU," he was expected to say.

"Stronger because we can play a leading role in one of the world's largest organisations from within, helping to make the big decisions on trade and security that determine our future. Safer because we can work with our European partners to fight cross-border crime and terrorism.

"And better off because British business will have full

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JEREMY SELWYN

Media circus: Boris Johnson is surrounded by photographers as he leaves his London home today after his dramatic intervention

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Zac reveals his income and his tax returns

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Sky high: first images of how the 14- to 20-storey buildings would look in central Westminster

New Scotland Yard: the £1.5bn towers set to replace Met's HQ

Sophia Slegh and Matt Watts

THIS is the first picture of six £1.5-billion towers set to transform the skyline when they replace the Met's famous headquarters.

The striking skyscrapers of between 14 and 20 storeys planned for New Scotland Yard will be visible from Buckingham Palace, the London Eye and the Houses of Parliament. Critics have criticised the plan because only 10 "affordable" properties are included in the 268-apartment complex.

The developers have instead offered a £10 million contribution to Westmin-

ster for social housing elsewhere in the borough. The site was bought by Middle Eastern investment company Abu Dhabi Financial Group (ADFG) for £370 million in 2014.

The plans include four-bedroom penthouse suites expected to be among London's most expensive flats.

The 1.7-acre Ten Broadway scheme, set to be approved by Westminster council tomorrow, will include a "retail pavilion" of shops on the ground floor, three levels of offices, with the flats above. Critics and neighbours have condemned the proposal as over-development of the site, with one architec-

tural expert calling its mesh of giant bronze hexagons a "mediocre rehash of Sixties design".

Adam Hug, leader of the Labour opposition on the Conservative-led council, said: "If this scheme is passed without a radical improvement the developers would be getting away with daylight robbery."

A complaint on behalf of the Self-Employed & Freelancer Association, based nearby, said: "The provision [of affordable housing] is derisory and in contravention of Westminster City Council policy. This has been done to maximise profits again at the cost of the

community." Resident Kay Chapman said the proposed towers were too high, adding: "This is not Manhattan."

More than a third of the new luxury apartments have been sold since sales opened last summer to investors from Russia, Africa, the Middle East, Britain and India, with prices ranging from £3 million to £30 million.

If the scheme were approved, the Mayor of London would still have the power to intervene.

The Met, which moved into New Scotland Yard in 1967, is relocating to the Curtis Green building on Victoria Embankment in a £58 million move.

HR consultant seeks £4.2m after tripping over pub rope

Tristan Kirk

AN HR consultant is fighting for £4.2 million in damages after she fractured her wrist when she tripped over a rope outside a London pub.

Carmen Mazo, 43, claims the injury, which happened at The Westbourne in Notting Hill in August 2009, destroyed her lucrative career. The case is now set to go before the Appeal Court.

In a statement, Ms Mazo said the accident and the post-traumatic arthritis which followed had robbed her of everything she had built up during her working life. She said she would have expected to be on £700-a-day by now, but instead would have to retrain.

She said: "I have been left with what I consider to be horrendous scars on my wrist from the surgery, which I am extremely conscious of. The fact that I have been left with major scarring on my wrist, which to an unsympathetic observer might look like I am prone to self-harm, is very distressing for me. My career has always been my refuge to block away unpleasant circumstances in my personal life, but now I am finding that because of a bartender's irresponsibility I could end up with no career or purpose in life."



"Ruined career": Carmen Mazo

"The accident has totally destroyed my work and social life, changing me such that I do not think that I will ever be my old self again."

Ms Mazo was off work for months after the accident. She eventually returned but gave up for good three years later. She sued the pub and was awarded £156,871 at Central London county court in 2013 after it admitted liability for the accident.

Lord Justice Laws gave Ms Mazo permission to take her claim to the Appeal Court, overturning a previous ruling. No date was set for the hearing.

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