

SPECIAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 3
7 DECEMBER 2022	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Legal and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance	
Contact Officer(s):	Rachel Edwards, Head of Constitutional Services Susan Proctor, Executive and Members Services Manager	Tel. 452277

HONORARY ALDERMAN AWARD

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Constitution and Ethics Committee and Honours Panel	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awards the status of Honorary Alderman to the following former member of Council: - Irene Walsh and Edward Murphy 2. Awards badges of office to any former councillor awarded the status of Honorary Alderman at a formal ceremony on a date to be agreed. 	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To recommend to Council that the status of Honorary Alderman be awarded to the former councillors listed in the recommendations above.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, empowers the Council, by resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting at a meeting specially convened for the purpose, to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on a person who has, in the Council's opinion rendered eminent services to the Council as a past member.
- 2.2 This recommendation is made by the Director of Legal and Governance based on recommendations determined by the Honours Panel. The Honours Panel now forms part of the Constitution and Ethics Committee and is chaired by Councillor Sandford.
- 2.3 The recommendations were discussed at the Constitution and Ethics Committee on 6 October 2022, and it was agreed unanimously to put forward Irene Walsh and Edward Murphy, taking into account the following criteria: -
 - 2.3.1 A former councillor who has been re-elected for at least 3 terms and has served a minimum of 11 years continuous service;
 - 2.3.2 Who has rendered eminent services to the council as a past member, taking into account membership of committees and external organisations, whether or not the former councillors served as Mayor, and whether they achieved anything worthy of particular note.

- 2.4 Council have previously resolved that the above criteria be accepted, and that councillors who served before the Council became a unitary should be included.
- 2.5 The Constitution and Ethics Committee (Honours Panel) considered that the former councillors listed in the recommendation met these criteria, and therefore recommend to Council that they should be awarded the status of Honorary Alderman. The recommendations are made on the following basis: -
- 2.5.1 Irene Walsh served as a councillor for the Orton Longueville Ward from 2006 to 2015 and also from 2016 to 2022. During her term of office, she served on Employment, Constitution & Ethics, Environment Scrutiny committees plus the Health & Wellbeing Board and Police & Crime Panel. Irene was a Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health & Public Health and has previously served as the Mayor of Peterborough.
- 2.5.2 Edward Murphy served as a councillor for the Ravensthorpe Ward from 2011 to 2022. During his term of office, he served on Audit, Constitution & Ethics, Licensing and Environment & Resources Scrutiny committee's
- 2.6 Honorary Alderman may attend and take part in such civic ceremonies as the Council may from time to time decide. They have no other formal role. Honorary Alderman is not entitled to receive any members' allowances or other payments of allowances, expenses, etc.
- 2.7 Whilst a person who is a serving councillor cannot be made an Honorary Alderman, a person awarded this status may subsequently be re-elected as a councillor but shall not then be addressed as Alderman or entitled to take part in any civic ceremonies as an Alderman.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 This report is linked to the Sustainable Future City Council for the former councillor's eminent service to the council and their constituents.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Constitution and Ethics Committee have been consulted.

5. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 5.1 If agreed, there will be some financial costs for the badges, citation and a small ceremony. These will be met from the existing civic budget.

Legal Implications

- 5.2 The legal implications are set out in the body of the report.

Equalities Implications

- 5.3 None.

6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 6.1 None.