

Item 3

REPORT TO SPECIAL COUNCIL

16TH MARCH 2009

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – SECTION 249 HONORARY ALDERMAN

1. Summary

- 1.1 At its meeting on 27th March 1992 the Council agreed, in principle, to the introduction of the office of Honorary Alderman. (Minute No: C.104/91 refers).
- 1.2 Members will recall that the title is bestowed on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Authority as past Members of the Council.
- 1.3 New regulations have now been introduced that follow this precedent whereby serving Members of this Council can be created Aldermen and thereafter will become Aldermen of the new unitary authority when the Borough Council ceases to exist on 31st March 2009.

2. Recommendation :

That consideration be given to bestowing the office of Honorary Alderman on the Members of the Council listed in Paragraph 4.1.

3. Honorary Alderman – New Regulations

- 3.1 In accordance with Regulation 32 of the Local Government (Structural Changes) (Transitional Arrangements) (No. 2) Regulations 2008 the Council took the opportunity at its meeting on 27th February 2009 to reconsider its existing practice in the appointment of Honorary Alderman.

After due consideration the Council resolved (Min. No. C.64/08 refers) to amend its qualifying criteria and as a result 22 Members have been identified as fulfilling the revised criteria and can be awarded the title of Honorary Alderman.

- 3.2 The holders of the office may attend and take part in such civic ceremonies as Durham County Council may decide but the office confers no specific rights of attendance at meetings of the Council or its Committees, other than those enjoyed by members of the public.

4. Statutory Procedure

- 4.1 In accordance with the procedure set out in Section 249 of the Local Government Act, 1972, this Special Meeting of Council has been convened for the specific purpose of conferring the title on the 22 Members who have been identified as fulfilling the necessary criteria and who are as follows :-

Councillor Mrs. A.M. Armstrong	Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels
Councillor B.F. Avery, JP	Councillor J.G. Huntington
Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp	Councillor Ms. I. Jackson
Councillor J. Burton	Councillor J.M. Khan
Councillor V. Chapman	Councillor D.A. Newell
Councillor T.F. Forrest	Councillor B.M. Ord
Councillor Mrs. B. Graham	Councillor Mrs. C. Potts
Councillor A. Gray	Councillor J. Robinson, JP
Councillor G.C. Gray	Councillor A. Smith
Councillor J.E. Higgin	Councillor T. Ward
Councillor A. Hodgson	Councillor W. Waters

- 4.2 Members are reminded that a resolution to confer the title must be passed by not less than two thirds of the Members voting thereon.

5 Scroll

- 5.1 The twenty two Members referred to above have indicated their willingness to accept the title of Honorary Alderman, and if agreed by Council, they will be presented with a framed parchment scroll in recognition of the honour bestowed.

Contact Officer: J. G. Turnbull Cabinet Secretary
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Ward(s)

Background Documents

1. Local Government Act 1972 – Chief Executive’s report to Council dated 27th March 1992 (Minute No: C.104/91).
2. Local Government (Structural Changes) (Transitional Arrangements) (No. 2) Regulations 2008.
3. Solicitor to the Council’s report to Council dated 27th February 2009

Examination by Statutory Officers

	Yes	Not Applicable
1. The report has been examined by the Council's Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The content has been examined by the Council's S.151 Officer or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The report has been approved by Management Team	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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