


Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Extraordinary Meeting

17 October 2017

Subject:	Honorary Freeman of the Borough
Director:	Director - Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Trisha Newton 0121 569 3193

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the office of Honorary Freeman of the Borough be conferred upon Dr Roy Richardson.
2. That the Director – Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Mayor and Leader of the Council, be authorised to make the appropriate arrangements to implement the decision set out in (1) above.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The General Purposes and Arbitration Committee, at its meeting held on 9 October 2017, considered proposals to admit a suitable person as Honorary Freeman of the Borough.
- 1.2 All members of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee supported a proposal from Councillor Gavan that the following person be nominated for their exceptional achievements and outstanding support and service to the Council and to the Borough:

Dr Roy Richardson

Dr Richardson is one of Sandwell's most successful businessmen building a multi-million pound company and was instrumental in the creation of, and major funder to, the Richardson Bros foundation.

The foundation supports many local and national causes, including Macmillan Care and Support, Guide Dogs, Alzheimer's Society, Save the Children Fund, Crimestoppers, The Prince's Trust Children's Hospital, the Ellie Bishop Trust and many other charities and sports clubs locally.

- 1.3 The Committee resolved to recommend to the Council that the office of Honorary Freeman of the Borough be conferred upon Dr Roy Richardson.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION

- 2.1 Nominations for Honorary Freeman/Freewomen are an endorsement of the talent and achievements of local people.

3 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of the ceremony and associated scrolls and badges will be met from within existing resources.

4 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 In accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the authority to admit suitably qualified persons to be Honorary Freeman/Freewomen of the Borough.
- 4.2 The Council may, by resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose, consider the admittance of persons to be Honorary Freeman of the Borough. The persons should be of distinction or persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Borough.

Surjit Tour
Director – Monitoring Officer

