


Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Extraordinary Meeting

16 October 2018

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 Mr David Manners;
- (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 20 August 2018, considered proposals to admit suitable persons 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:

Mr David Manners

Mr Manners was born and raised in Smethwick and has been an exemplary employer for over 40 years. In addition, he has donated significant amounts of money to local charities over the years, and continues to do so. Mr Manners also undertakes a great deal of unsponsored work for the local community.

Mr Manners has demonstrated exceptional innovation and entrepreneurship, which is delivering significant economic growth and prosperity in the borough of Sandwell. Mr Manners has exemplified selflessness and sustained commitment to the community through charitable deeds.

- 1.3 The Committee resolved to recommend to the Council that the office of Honorary Freeman of the Borough be conferred upon Mr David Manners.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION

- 2.1 Nominations for Honorary Freemen are an endorsement of the talent and achievements of local people, captured by Ambition1.

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 Freemen/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 Freemen 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.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

5.1 No consultation is required. The proposal is subject to approval by full Council.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

6.1 There are no alternative options. The proposal is subject to approval by full Council.

7 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 An equality impact assessment is not required.

8 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 A data protection impact assessment is not required.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

9.1 There are no crime and disorder issues arising from this report.

10 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

10.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

11 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

11.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

12 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

12.1 There is no impact on any Council managed property arising from this report.

13 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 13.1 Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee held on 20 August 2018 (Minute No. 7/18 refers).

Surjit Tour
Director – Monitoring Officer