

Agenda

Extraordinary Meeting of Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, to be held on Tuesday, 24 October 2023 at 6.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:-

The Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Bill Gavan, in the Chair

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|----------|---|----------------|
| 1 | Apologies for Absence | 5 - 6 |
| | To receive apologies for absence (if any). | |
| 2 | Declarations of Interest | 7 - 8 |
| | Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting. | |
| 3 | Nomination to the office of Honorary Alderwoman | 9 - 12 |
| | To consider a nomination to the office of Honorary Alderwoman. | |
| 4 | Nomination to confer the status of Freedom of the Borough | 13 - 16 |
| | To consider a nomination to confer the status of Freedom of the Borough. | |



Dated: 16 October 2023



Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands

Distribution
All Members of Council

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

Information about meetings in Sandwell



If you are attending the meeting and require assistance to access the venue, please contact Democratic Services (democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk).



If the fire alarm sounds, please follow the instructions of the officers present and leave the building by the nearest exit.



Only people invited to speak at a meeting may do so. Everyone at the meeting is expected to be respectful and listen to the discussion.



Agendas with reports with exempt information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that any such reports are kept secure. After the meeting confidential papers should be disposed of in a secure way.



This meeting may be recorded and broadcast on the Internet. If this is the case, it will be confirmed at the meeting and further information will be provided.



You are allowed to use devices for the purposes of recording or reporting during the public session of the meeting. When using your devices they must not disrupt the meeting – please ensure they are set to silent.



Members who cannot attend the meeting should submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk)



All agenda, reports, minutes for Sandwell Council's meetings, councillor details and more are available from our website (<https://cmis.sandwell.gov.uk/cm5/>)



Apologies

To receive any apologies from members

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Declarations of Interest

Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

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Report to Council

24 October 2023

Subject:	Nominations for Honorary Alderwomen
Director:	Director - Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Surjit Tour
Contact Officer:	Suky Suthi-Nagra – Democratic Services Manager Suky_SuthiNagra@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations


- 1.1 That the office of Honorary Alderwomen of the Borough be conferred upon Mrs. Elaine Costigan
- 1.2 That the Director – Law and Governance and 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.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The General Purposes and Arbitration Committee, at its meeting held on 3 August 2023, considered proposals to admit a suitable person as Honorary Alderwomen.
- 2.2 Members of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee supported a proposal from Councillor Peter Hughes that Mrs. Elaine Costigan be nominated to the office of Honorary Alderwomen as set out in 4.1 of this report.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>Nominations for Honorary Alderman/Alderwomen are an endorsement of the aspirations, talent and achievements of local people.</p>
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4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Former Councillor Elaine Costigan served on Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council for 20 years, she had served on a number of Committees over the years, most notably served as Cabinet Member for Health & Protection and as Town Lead for Wednesbury.
- 4.2 The Committee considered Mrs. Elaine Costigan’s additional contributions to the Borough of Sandwell such as being an active volunteer in the community, having served on several community groups and friends groups as well as still being active in the “Let’s Dance” group that she helped to establish.

5 Implications

Resources:	<p>Local Authorities are empowered to incur reasonable expenditure on the provision of an address or casket on the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman.</p> <p>It is the practice of this Authority to present a Badge of Office and a commemorative scroll to the Aldermen/Alderwomen, the cost of which is met from the civic ceremonial budget.</p>
Legal and Governance:	<p>The authority to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwomen and the power to incur expenditure is contained within Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, as now amended by Section 29 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.</p>
Risk:	<p>There are no risks arising from this report.</p>
Equality:	<p>An equality impact assessment is not required.</p>



Health and Wellbeing:	There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.
Social Value:	There are no social value implications arising from this report.
Climate Change:	There are no climate change implications arising from this report
Corporate Parenting:	There are no corporate parenting implications arising from this report.

6 Appendices

Not applicable

7. Background Papers

Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee held on 3 August 2023 (Minute No. 15/23 refers).



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Report to Council

24 October 2023

Subject:	Nomination for the status of Freedom of the Borough
Director:	Director - Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Surjit Tour
Contact Officer:	Suky Suthi-Nagra – Democratic Services Manager Suky_SuthiNagra@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations


- 1.1 That the status of Freedom of the Borough be conferred upon Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust.
- 1.2 That the Director – Law and Governance and 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.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The General Purposes and Arbitration Committee, at its meeting held on 22 September 2023, considered and supported proposals to confer the status of Freedom of the Borough to Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	Nominations for Freedom of the Borough are an endorsement of the eminent service and commitment to the residents of Sandwell.
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4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 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 the status of Freedom 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.
- 4.2 The National Health Service celebrated its 75th birthday on 5th July. As such, Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust was nominated for Freedom of the Borough (Sandwell) for the selfless public services it has given and commitment shown to Sandwell residents over the years
- 4.3 The NHS overall and in turn the Trust, is a kind, caring, compassionate and great institution that every resident of Sandwell has reason to be proud of.
- 4.4 Bestowing this honour on the Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust acknowledges the hard work, devotion and impact the NHS and the Trust, particularly its staff, has had on Sandwell residents.
- 4.5 This honour, which is the highest honour that the Council can bestow, is a clear demonstration of the deep affection Sandwell has for the Trust and NHS and to do so in the 75th anniversary year of the NHS is a fitting way to show the resident's heart-felt appreciation.



5 Implications

Resources:	Local Authorities are empowered to incur reasonable expenditure on cost of the ceremony and associated scrolls and badges, the cost of which is met from the civic ceremonial budget.
Legal and Governance:	The authority to confer the title of Freedom of the Borough and the power to incur expenditure is contained within Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, as now amended by Section 29 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.
Risk:	There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.
Equality:	There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.
Health and Wellbeing:	There are no health and wellbeing implications arising directly from this report.
Social Value:	Nominations for Freedom of the Borough are an endorsement of commitment to the residents of Sandwell.
Climate Change:	There are no climate change implications arising directly from this report.
Corporate Parenting:	There are no corporate parenting implications arising from this report.

6 Appendices

Not applicable

7. Background Papers

Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee held on 22 September 2023 (Minute No. 28/23 refers).



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