

# Report to Council

**24 October 2023**

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| <b>Subject:</b>         | Nominations for Honorary Alderwomen  |
| <b>Director:</b>        | Director - Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Surjit Tour   |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b> | Suky Suthi-Nagra – Democratic Services Manager<br><a href="mailto:Suky_SuthiNagra@sandwell.gov.uk">Suky_SuthiNagra@sandwell.gov.uk</a> |

## 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?

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|  | <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

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| <b>Resources:</b>            | <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> |
| <b>Legal and Governance:</b> | <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>  |
| <b>Risk:</b>                 | <p>There are no risks arising from this report.</p>   |
| <b>Equality:</b>             | <p>An equality impact assessment is not required.</p>   |



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| <b>Health and Wellbeing:</b> | There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report. |
| <b>Social Value:</b>         | There are no social value implications arising from this report.         |
| <b>Climate Change:</b>       | There are no climate change implications arising from this report        |
| <b>Corporate Parenting:</b>  | 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).

