

# LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

<b>REPORT:</b>	<b>Civic Mayoralty and Honorary Freedom Selection Committee</b>	
<b>DATE OF DECISION</b>	<b>21 March 2023</b>	
<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Nominations – Civic Mayor and Civic Awards</b>	
<b>CORPORATE DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR:</b>	<b>Stephen Lawrence-Orumwense</b> Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer	
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Adrian May</b> Interim Head of Democratic Service Adrian.may@croydon.gov.uk	
<b>DECISION TAKER:</b>	<b>Nominations are agreed for submission to Council</b>	
<b>CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION?</b>	<b>YES</b>	Part exempt By virtue of Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to any individual)
<b>WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	N/A	

## 1 SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 1.1** Croydon Council operates a civic awards scheme, which includes an Honorary Alderperson scheme and Freedom of the Borough award. The Civic Mayoralty and Honorary Freedom Selection Committee has the responsibility of agreeing and submitting nominations for the honorary titles at a Special Council meeting. Nominations are being sought for agreement at this meeting.
- 1.2** The Civic Mayoralty and Honorary Freedom Selection Committee also has the responsibility for nominating to Council the appointment of the Civic Mayor (which is also the Chair of Council) for the next municipal year. A nomination to the Annual Council Meeting is being sought for agreement at this meeting.

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

For the reasons set out in the report the committee is asked to:

- 2.1** Review the selection criteria and reasons for the nominations submitted in the accompanying Part B (Appendix A) paper (including any further nominations for consideration moved at the meeting under Part B);

- 2.2** Recommend to Council to award the Civic Honours for any agreed nominations, as detailed in the Part B (Appendix A) report (and any further nominations considered and agreed at the meeting under Part B);
- 2.3** Agree the nomination to the Council's Annual Meeting for the Civic Mayor, municipal year 2023/24.

### **3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1** Responsibility of the Committee is to receive nomination from Members for any honorary awards, and this will be in time for agreement at a Special Council Meeting, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and subsequent award ceremony as part of the Annual Council Meeting May 2023.
- 3.2** Responsibility of the Committee is to receive and agree a nomination for the Civic Mayor, which would be agreed at the May 2023 Annual Council Meeting.

### **4 BACKGROUND AND DETAILS**

- 4.1** In line with the London Borough of Croydon Constitution (paragraph 6.1 Part 4A, Council Procedure Rules) nominations for the awards of Honorary Aldermen and Honorary Alderwomen must be people who are former elected members of the London Borough of Croydon, who have either:
  - 4.1.1** Rendered eminent service in their capacity as Member, considering the contribution they have made to the borough, including roles served and how their service rendered is above and beyond that expected of all Members; or,
  - 4.1.2** Served a period of twelve years on the Council.
- 4.2** Freedom of the Borough is an award dedicated to 'Persons of distinction who have rendered eminent service to Croydon'.
- 4.3** Nominations are discussed and held in private. The Part B paper (Appendix A) accompanying this report, details the nominees for the Civic Awards, although nominations from a group may be moved for consideration at the meeting.
- 4.4** Nominations for Civic Mayor have to be made far enough in advance that preparations can be made for the year's civic events, and that the Civic Mayor can be inducted.
- 4.5** The terms of reference for the Committee does not include agreeing the nomination for the deputy Civic Mayor (which is also the Deputy Chair of Council). Whilst not for formal agreement until the Annual Council meeting, Officers having prior knowledge

of the nomination/s for the role of Deputy Mayor would facilitate the induction process.

## 5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 No applicable.

## 6 CONSULTATION

6.1 The nominations for Alderperson were asked from the political groups which had previously serving Members of Croydon Council.

## 7. CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

7.1 Honorary title schemes give recognition to individuals and thanks for the Communities they serve. It supports the Mayor's Corporate Plan, through supporting Priority 2: Becoming a council which listens to, respects and works in partnership with Croydon's diverse communities and businesses.

## 8. IMPLICATIONS

### 8.1 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1.1 Finance have reviewed the report. All financial implications (production of award recipient certificates) can be met with existing budgets.

#### 8.1.2 Revenue and Capital consequences of report recommendation

	Current Year	Medium Term Financial Strategy – 3 year forecast		
	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26
Revenue Budget Available	3	3	3	3
Expenditure to Date	0	0	0	0
Effect of decision from report - maximum	2.4	0	0	0
Remaining Budget	0.6	3	3	3

**8.1.3** Comments approved Lesley Shields, Head of Finance - Assistant Chief Executive & Resources on behalf of the Director of Finance. 10/03/2023

## **8.2 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**8.2.1** Under Section 249 (honorary titles) (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act), the Council may confer the title of honorary aldermen or honorary alderwomen on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past Members, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the Members voting thereon at a Council meeting specially convened for the purpose with notice of the object. Under Section 249(5) of the 1972 Act the Council may admit persons of distinction, and persons who have, in the Council's opinion, rendered eminent services to Croydon to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of Croydon, again by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the Members voting on it, at a specially convened meeting where notice of the object of the meeting has been given.

**8.2.2** Comments approved by the Head of Litigation & Corporate Law on behalf of the Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer. (Date 03/03/2023)

## **8.3 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

**8.3.1** Generally when identifying and making nominations for honorary civic awards, it is advisable, whenever possible, that Members and Council considers the diverse communities within their authority area and nominations be reflective of the contributions by residents and organisations across communities.

**8.3.2** Drafted comments being reviewed / and awaiting approval by Equalities team.

## **9. APPENDICES**

**9.1** Nominations - Appendix A (Exempt Part B)

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

**10.1** N/A

## **11. URGENCY**

**11.1** N/A