

Extraordinary Meeting of the Council

**Thursday, 19th May, 2022 at 5.45pm
in the Council Chamber,
at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley**

You are hereby summoned to attend an extraordinary meeting of the Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the numbered agenda items listed below.

Agenda - Public Session (Meeting open to the public and press)

Prayers

1. Apologies for absence
2. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct
3. Appointment of Honorary Freemen/Women and Honorary Aldermen/Women



**Kevin O'Keefe
Chief Executive
Dated: 11th May, 2022**

Distribution:

All Members of the Council

Please note the following concerning meetings at Dudley Council House:

Health and Safety

- Windows/doors will be opened to provide adequate ventilation.
- Please ensure you sanitise your hands when arriving and leaving the building. Hand washing facilities are also available on site.
- Hand sanitiser and antibacterial wipes are available at various locations.
- All persons entering or working in the Council House are encouraged to wear face masks in communal areas and when moving around the building.
- Face masks may be removed when you are participating in the meeting.
- All people attending are encouraged to undertake Lateral Flow Tests twice a week. Anyone testing positive should not attend and should seek further advice.
- Do not attend if you feel unwell; if you have tested positive for Covid-19; if you are self-isolating or if you suspect that you are symptomatic.
- All people are encouraged to be vaccinated to limit any potential ill-health effects.
- Please be respectful of everyone's personal space and preferences when you attend meetings.

Public Gallery

- Seating in the public gallery is subject to limits on capacity and will be allocated on a 'first come' basis.

Toilets

- Toilet facilities are available on site. All the toilets have hand washing facilities.

No smoking

- There is no smoking on the premises in line with national legislation. It is an offence to smoke in or on the premises. You cannot use e-cigarettes and/or similar vaping devices.

In Case of Emergency

- In the event of the alarms sounding, please leave the building by the nearest exit. There are Officers who will assist you in the event of this happening, please follow their instructions.

Submitting Apologies for Absence

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services.

Private and Confidential Information

- Agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

Recording and Reporting

- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.
- The meeting will be recorded and broadcast on the Council's YouTube Channel. The webcast can be viewed by clicking on the following link
<https://www.youtube.com/user/dudleymbc>

General

- Public Wi-Fi is available in the Council House.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website www.dudley.gov.uk

If you need advice or assistance

- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk

Extraordinary Meeting of the Council – 19th May, 2022

Report of the Chief Executive

Appointment of Honorary Freeman/Women and Honorary Aldermen/Women

Purpose

1. To invite the Council to make any Honorary Freeman/Women and Honorary Aldermen/Women appointments pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Recommendations

2. That the Council determine whether to appoint any person(s) as Honorary Freeman/Women of the Borough.
3. That the Council determine whether to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Woman on any persons.
4. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make all the necessary arrangements regarding any awards and presentation ceremony.

Background

Honorary Freeman/Women

5. Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon, appoint to be an Honorary Freeman/Woman of the Borough, persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough.
6. The criteria for appointment as an Honorary Freeman/Woman of the Borough were agreed by the Council on 25th February, 2013 as follows:

- (a) A branch of the armed forces with a particular connection with the Borough.
 - (b) Any person born in the Borough or with a particular connection with the Borough who has made an eminent contribution to charity or voluntary work locally, nationally or internationally.
 - (c) Any person born in the Borough or with a particular connection with the Borough who has made an eminent contribution to the life of the Borough or to the nation, in the fields of culture, medicine, science, social care, the economy, education, public service, politics, sport or entertainment.
7. The Council would also take account of whether an individual has received an honour from Her Majesty the Queen or any other prestigious award.

Honorary Aldermen/Women

8. Section 249 (1) of the Local Government Act, 1972 provides that the Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting on it at a meeting specially convened for the purpose, confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Woman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council but who are not then serving Councillors.
9. As reported to the Council on 28th February, 2022, it has been agreed that in normal circumstances, persons will only be nominated for the position of Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman if they have previously served on the Council for a minimum of 12 years (or 3 terms of office). This does not, however, preclude the Council from considering any nominations where a person has served as a Councillor for less than 12 years. The Council retains sole discretion to determine if it wishes to confer the honorary titles where it considers that a person has rendered eminent services to the Council.
10. Should the Council resolve to appoint any Honorary Freeman/Women or Honorary Aldermen/Women of the Borough, it has been customary that a presentation ceremony be held to award the honour to the recipient(s).

Finance

11. The costs involved with decisions to make any Freedom of the Borough or Honorary Alderman/Woman appointments will need to be identified from within existing budgetary provisions.

Law

12. The legal powers are contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act, 1972.



Risk Management

13. There are no implications for the Council's Risk Management Framework.

Equality Impact

14. There are no implications for the Council's commitment to equality and diversity.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

15. Any decisions made by the Council will be administered within existing resources.

Commercial/Procurement

16. There are no implications for the Council's objectives to maximise value from procurement, deliver social value and develop a commercial focus.

Council Priorities

17. There are no implications in relation to the Borough Vision, the Council Plan or the Future Council Programme.



Kevin O'Keefe
Chief Executive