

**Joint Report of the Presiding Member, Monitoring Officer and Head of  
Democratic Services**

**Council – 25 June 2015**

**CONFERRING TITLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN PURSUENT TO  
SECTION 249 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

<b>Purpose:</b>	To agree in principal to confer the title of “Honorary Alderman” on former Councillor W John F Davies.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	None.
<b>Reason for Decision:</b>	To comply with the Criteria for the conferring the title of “Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman” (Minute 105 of Council on 18 October 2012).
<b>Consultation:</b>	Political Group Leaders, Finance and Legal.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that:  1) The title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on former Councillor W John F Davies in recognition of his eminent service rendered to the City and County of Swansea and its predecessor Authority’s.
<b>Report Author:</b>	Huw Evans
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Carl Billingsley
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Tracey Meredith
<b>Access to Services Officer:</b>	Sherrill Hopkins

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that “A Principal Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose with notice of the object, confer the title of Honorary Alderman on persons, who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past Members of that Council, but who are not then Members of the Council.
- 1.2 Council at its meeting on 18 October 2012 (Minute 105 refers) adopted an amended Criteria for the conferring the title of “Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman”.

- 1.3 The criteria for the conferring the title of “Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman is outlined below:

*“Council shall grant an Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman Status to:*

- a) *Those former Councillors who have served within the boundaries of the City and County of Swansea providing that they:*
  - i) *Do not intend returning or have failed to be re-elected as Councillors within the City and County of Swansea **and that;***
  - ii) *They have held the position of Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea or Lord Mayor / Mayor / Chair of the Council or any of the predecessor Authorities of the City and County of Swansea.*
- b) *Any individual that the Council deems appropriate.”*

- 1.4 The Certificate presented to each Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman is produced bilingually. One side is Welsh and the other side is English. An example is outlined as **Appendix A**.

## **2. Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman**

- 2.1 The title is derived from the Old English title of “Ealdorman”, literally meaning “Elder Man”, and was used by the Chief Nobles presiding over Shires. The position of Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman is non political.
- 2.2 The title is used within the City and County of Swansea as a reward for individuals who have given long and eminent services to the Council providing the criteria has been met.
- 2.3 Honorary Aldermen / Honorary Alderwomen are often invited to attend Civic Ceremonies as the Council may from time to time decide, but shall not, as such, have the right to influence meetings of the Council or a Committee of the Council or to receive any allowance or other payment under the Councillors Allowances Scheme.
- 2.4 They are invited to Civic events and other events where the Honorary Aldermen’s / Honorary Alderwomen’s personal knowledge and interests would add value to the occasion. Examples of such events could include the Inauguration of the Lord Mayor, Civic Service, Christmas Carol Service, Celebratory and Commemorative Events, Regimental Events and Parades, Remembrance Day Service and Parade, Royal Visits, Lord Mayor’s Appeal Events and Freedom Ceremonies.

3. **Eminent Service of Former Councillor W John F Davies**

3.1 Following a period of ill health, former Councillor W John F Davies resigned as a Councillor on 20 March 2015.

3.2 He served the Murrleston community and was Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea for the 2000-2001 Municipal Year.

3.3 His periods of service are shown below.

<b>Authority</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Swansea City Council	05.05.1983	31.03.1996
City and County of Swansea	04.05.1995	20.03.2015

3.4 These periods amount to a collective total of nearly 32 years service representing the area where he served.

4. **Financial Implications**

4.1 There are no direct costs with conferring such titles other than ceremonial costs which will need to be contained within existing budgets.

5. **Legal Implications**

5.1 The proposals are in accordance with the relevant legislation.

**Background Papers:**

None

**Appendices:**

Appendix A	Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman Certificate
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Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman Certificate



*RESOLVED that the Council of  
the City and County of Swansea  
confer the title of*

*Honorary Alderman*

*on*

*John Davies*

*a past member of the Council of the  
City and County of Swansea for eminent services  
rendered to the Council.*

*Dated: 25 June 2015*

*Jack Straw  
Chief Executive*



PENDERFYNWYD y dylai  
Cyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe  
roi'r teitl yr

*Henadur Anrhydeddus*

*ï*

*John Davies*

*am wasanaethau eithriadol  
a wnaed i'r Cyngor fel cyn-aelod o  
Gyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe.*

*Dyddiad: 25 Mehefin 2015*

*Jack Straw  
Prif Weithredwr*