

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

**Council – 22 June 2017**

**CONFERRING TITLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN / HONORARY  
ALDERWOMAN**

<b>Purpose:</b>	To agree in principal to confer the title of “Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman” on the former Councillors identified within the report in line with Council Criteria.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	None.
<b>Consultation:</b>	Political Group Leaders, Finance and Legal.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that:  1) Council agree in principal to confer the title of Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman on former Councillors R G (Bob) Davies, John Newbury, Ioan M Richard, R June Stanton and Ceinwen Thomas in recognition of their eminent service rendered to the City and County of Swansea and its predecessor Authority’s;  2) A Ceremonial Meeting of Council be arranged in order to confer the titles on those former Councillors named above.
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<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Carl Billingsley
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Tracey Meredith
<b>Access to Services Officer:</b>	Phil Couch

**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, 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 Councillors of the Council.”*

1.2 Section 29 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 amended Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to also allow the title “Honorary Alderwoman” to be used.

- 1.3 Council at its meeting on 15 March 2012 (Minute 194 refers) adopted a Criteria for the conferring the title of “Honorary Alderman”. Council amended the Criterion on 18 October 2012 in order to reflect the fact that the title “Honorary Alderwoman” may also be used. The current Criteria is as follows:

*“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 Prior to and at the Local Government Election on 4 May 2017, a number of Councillors had chosen to resign from Office, stand down at the election or were not re-elected.

- 1.5 Six of these Councillors meet the criteria set for the granting of Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman Status. These persons being former Councillors R G (Bob) Davies, John Newbury, Ioan M Richard, R June Stanton and Ceinwen Thomas.

- 1.6 The Certificate presented to each Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman is bilingual and is shown at **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 conferred within the City and County of Swansea as a reward for individuals who have reached the end 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 Councillors**

#### **3.1 Former Councillor R G (Bob) Davies**

- 3.1.1 Former Councillor R G Davies served the Landore community. He was Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea 1994-1995.

- 3.1.2 His periods of service are shown below.

<b>Authority</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Swansea City Council	12.12.1974	31.03.1996

- 3.1.3 These periods amount to a collective total of approximately 22 years' service representing the residents of the City and County of Swansea.

#### **3.2 Former Councillor John Newbury**

- 3.2.1 Former Councillor J Newbury served the Dunvant community. He was Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea 2015-2016.

- 3.2.2 His periods of service are shown below.

<b>Authority</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Swansea City Council	07.05.1987	31.03.1996
City and County of Swansea	04.05.1995	04.05.2017

- 3.2.3 These periods amount to a collective total of approximately 27 years' service representing the residents of the City and County of Swansea.

#### **3.3 Former Councillor Ioan M Richard**

- 3.3.1 Former Councillor I M Richard served the Mawr community. He was Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea 2011-2012.

- 3.3.2 His periods of service are shown below.

<b>Authority</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Lliw Valley Borough Council	14.11.1985	31.03.1996
City and County of Swansea	04.05.1995	04.05.2017

- 3.3.3 These periods amount to a collective total of over 31 years' service representing the residents of the City and County of Swansea.

### **3.4 Former Councillor R June Stanton**

3.4.1 Former Councillor R J Stanton served the Sketty community. She was Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea 2013-2014.

3.4.2 Her periods of service are shown below.

<b>Authority</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Swansea City Council	05.05.1988	31.03.1996
West Glamorgan County Council	04.05.1989	31.03.1996
City and County of Swansea	04.05.1995	04.05.2017

3.4.3 These periods amount to a collective total of approximately 29 years' service representing the residents of the City and County of Swansea.

### **3.5 Former Councillor Ceinwen Thomas**

3.5.1 Former Councillor C Thomas served the Mynyddbach community. She was Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea 2014-2015.

3.5.2 Her periods of service are shown below.

<b>Authority</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
Swansea City Council	23.05.1990	31.03.1996
City and County of Swansea	04.05.1995	04.05.2017

3.5.3 These periods amount to a collective total of approximately 27 years' service representing the residents of the City and County of Swansea.

## **4. Equality and Engagement Implications**

4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening process took place prior to the consultation period. The outcome indicated that it was low priority and a full report was not required.

## **5. Financial Implications**

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

## **6. Legal Implications**

6.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report other than those identified within it.

### **Background Papers:**

None

### **Appendices:**

**Appendix A** Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman Certificate

Honorary Alderman / Honorary Alderwoman Certificate



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

*Honorary Alderman*

*on*

*XXX*

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

*Dated: xx xxxx 2017*

*Phil Roberts  
Chief Executive*



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

*Henadur Anrhydeddus*

*ŷ*

*XXX*

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

*Dyddiad: xx xxxx 2017*

*Phil Roberts  
Prif Weithredwr*