



## Report of the Leader of the Council

Council – 25 April 2019

### Honorary Freedom of the City & County of Swansea to Alun Wyn Jones

<b>Purpose:</b>	To consider conferring Honorary Freedom of the City & County of Swansea Alun Wyn Jones
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	None
<b>Consultation:</b>	Access to Services, Finance, Legal, Chief Executive & Group Leaders.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that:  1) Honorary Freedom of the City & County of Swansea is granted to Alun Wyn Jones  2) A ceremonial council meeting be held on 12 June 2019 to confer the title of Honorary Freedom.
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<b>Access to Services Officer:</b>	Rhian Millar

#### 1. Biography

Alun-Wyn Jones was born in Swansea and played his first rugby for Bonymaen RFC. He is the current captain of the Wales national team and has captivated the world of rugby, Swansea and Wales by leading the country to its third Grand Slam and forth Six Nations Championship in a decade.

He currently plays for the Ospreys and is the world most-capped lock forward, Wales' most-capped player and shows leadership skills on the pitch in every game he plays and sets an example to the rugby world.

He is reported to be the best player world rugby has produced in the last 20 years and he is the first player to play nine consecutive British Lions tests in the professional era and has appeared for the Ospreys more times than any other player.

Alun Wyn Jones is a credit to himself, the world of sport and is a first class ambassador to his home city.

Subject to the agreement and support of council, a ceremonial council to confer Honorary Freedom will be convened to honour one of the greatest names in world rugby as well as celebrating Swansea's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a city.

## **2. Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.**

Under section 249 of the Local Government Act the Council may by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon, admit to be an Honorary Freeman person of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council rendered eminent service to the County.

In the past similar honours have been bestowed by the Council and its predecessors on HMS Cambria, The Welsh Guards, The Royal Welsh Regiment (Royal Welch Fusiliers) and its antecedent regiments, HM Coastguard, RNLI, former President Jimmy Carter, the late Lord Callaghan, the late John Charles, HMS Scott, The Archbishop of Canterbury, 1<sup>st</sup> The Queen's Dragoon Guards, 215 (City of Swansea) Squadron, Mel Nurse, Chris Coleman and more recently, Sir Karl Jenkins MBE.

## **3. Ceremony Arrangements**

A Ceremonial Council meeting will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at the Guildhall.

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

The proposal has no equality implications and an Equality Impact Assessment is not required in this instance.

## **5. Financial Implications**

The cost of the proceedings, including a Freedom Scroll, will be met from the Corporate Promotions budget.

## **6. Legal Implications**

The power to grant Honorary Freedom of the City and County of Swansea is contained in Section 249 [5] of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Background Papers:** None

**Appendices:** None