

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 12 SEPTEMBER 2007

REPORT BY HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

3. HONORARY ALDERMEN

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

'D' RECOMMENDATION – that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on the following former members of East Hertfordshire District Council:

H G S Banks, F J Clay, C Hodson-Smith, J A Reynolds, H A Sargent, J H Sartin, W H Stripling and S G Williams.

1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 To award of the title of Honorary Alderman.

2.0 Contribution to the Council's Corporate Objectives

2.1 The award of such a title will help strengthen the civic identity of the Authority thus contributing to the objective to "improve the health and sustainability of the organisation".

3.0 Background

3.1 Under the provisions of section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, Council may confer the title of Honorary Alderman on any person who, in the opinion of the Council, has rendered eminent services to the Authority as a past Member. The award is subject to a resolution passed not less than two thirds of the Members present at a meeting specially convened for that purpose.

3.2 Council has previously conferred the title of Honorary Alderman to Miss Lilian Lloyd Taylor (now deceased) at a special meeting held in May 1991.

4.0 Procedure

4.1 Council, at its meeting in February 2007 agreed the following procedure in relation to this matter:

- (A) an offer of appointment to Honorary Alderman only be considered in respect of former Members who have served a minimum of five full terms of office;
- (B) former Members who qualify under paragraph (A) above be informally asked within four weeks of the date of their retirement from the Council (or as soon as practicable following the introduction of this process) whether or not they wish to be considered for this award;
- (C) the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Council, be authorised to determine whether a person under consideration for this award has rendered eminent services to the Council when they were a Member;
- (D) an extraordinary Council meeting be convened on a date to be determined between the Chairman of the Council and the person(s) being awarded the title of Honorary Alderman to consider a motion under section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

5.0 The role of Honorary Alderman

5.1 A formal presentation of a certificate of title and a badge of office will be made to the person(s) receiving the award at the extraordinary meeting. In addition, Honorary Aldermen:

- (A) will be encouraged to attend all Civic Ceremonial events when invited;
- (B) with the Chairman's permission, may assist in hosting receptions/functions;
- (C) will be encouraged to support the work of the Chairman's Charity, and
- (D) will promote civic pride in the District of East Hertfordshire and its Council.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 None

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 None

8.0 Human Resources Implications

8.1 None

9.0 Risk Management Implications

9.1 None

10.0 Conclusion

10.1 Based on the approved process, former Councillors H G S Banks, F J Clay, C Hodson-Smith, J A Reynolds, H A Sargent, J H Sartin, W H Stripling and S G Williams are recommended to receive the award.

Background Papers

None.

Contact Officer: Jeff Hughes - Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services - ext 2170