

By: Peter Oakford Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services
Benjamin Watts, General Counsel

To: County Council – 17 December 2019

Subject: Appointment of Honorary Aldermen

Introduction

(1) At its meeting on 30 April 2009, the County Council resolved to utilise the power contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, to confer the award of Honorary Alderman to recognise the eminent services of some of its distinguished former Members. There is no statutory definition of “eminent services” but the County Council agreed that the award should only be made to former Members who had served at least 12 years and had rendered eminent services in terms of the individual’s contribution to the activities of the County Council and the well-being of the County of Kent.

(2) Honorary Aldermen are invited to attend relevant civic and ceremonial events, including the Annual Meeting of the Council and the Chairman’s Civic Reception. The names of those individuals awarded the status of Honorary Alderman are included on the wooden honours board in the Council Chamber.

Nomination

(3) Mr John Davies has been nominated to receive this Honorary Award in 2019.

Mr John Davies was elected to the County Council in June 2001 as the Conservative Member for Southborough. In 2005 he was elected to represent the electoral division of Tunbridge Wells West and was re-elected for that Division in 2009 to 2017. Mr Davies served as Chairman of the County Council in 2009/10 and Chairman of the Planning Applications Committee from 2009 until 2017.

A retired Director of Human Resources and Public Relations from the financial services industry, Mr Davies is also a Freeman City of London and Liveryman of The Clockmakers Company.

He served on the Superannuation Fund Committee, Planning Applications Committee (Chairman), Regulation Committee, Corporate Policy Overview Committee, Selection and Member Services Committee, Kent Tunbridge Wells Local Board, Tunbridge Wells Youth Advisory Group the Kent & Medway Fire & Rescue Authority was Lead Member for Regeneration and Supporting Independence in 2006.

(5) Members are reminded that, in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the nominees for Honorary Aldermen have to receive the support of not less than two thirds of the Members voting thereon at a special meeting of the County Council convened for the purpose.

Recommendation

(6) The County Council is invited to consider Mr John Davies for the award of Honorary Alderman of Kent County Council.

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