



Summons to and
Agenda for a Special
Freedom of the County
Meeting of Full Council
**Thursday, 17th
September, 2026
at 10.00 am**



DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
SESSIONS HOUSE
MAIDSTONE

Wednesday, 9 September 2026

To: All Members of the County Council

A Special Freedom of the County meeting of the County Council will be held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ on Thursday, 17th September, 2026 at **10.00 am** to deal with the following business. **The meeting is scheduled to end by 10.30 am.**

A G E N D A

1. Lord's Prayer
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Significant Interests in items on the agenda
4. Freedom of the County - Brigade of Gurkhas

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Deputy Chief Executive
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By: Linden Kemkaran - Leader of the Council
Amanda Beer - Chief Executive

To: County Council - 17 September 2026

Subject Freedom of the County - Brigade of Gurkhas

Introduction

- (1) At its meeting on 21 July 2011, the County Council resolved to utilise the power contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to admit persons of distinction, or those who have rendered eminent services to the local area, as honorary freemen.
- (2) There is no statutory definition of “eminent services”, but Selection and Member Services agreed at its meeting on 12 September 2011 that it would be left to the discretion of the Council at the time to assess and recognise the contribution made to the activities and wellbeing of the county of Kent.
- (3) The Brigade of Gurkhas has a long and distinguished record of service to the Crown and the United Kingdom. The conferral of the Freedom of the County would provide formal recognition of that service and of the high esteem in which the Brigade is held by the people of Kent.
- (4) The Freedom of the County is an honorary distinction. It does not confer any special rights, privileges, allowances or payments.
- (5) Members are reminded that, in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the proposal must receive the support of not less than two thirds of the Members voting at a special meeting of the County Council convened for the purpose.

Recommendation:

The County Council declares its thanks for and acknowledges the distinguished service of the Brigade of Gurkhas to the Crown and the United Kingdom and, in recognition of that service, formally grants the Brigade of Gurkhas the Freedom of the County.

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