

COUNCIL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Mayoral Certificates

24th June 2010

Report of Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Members of a request from a past Deputy Mayor to introduce a certificate for past Deputy Mayors and Mayoresses.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council Business Committee considers the introduction of certificates for past Mayors, Mayoresses/Consorts and Deputy Mayors.

1. Introduction

Each year at the Mayor Making ceremony the outgoing Mayor and Mayoress or consort are presented with a Past-Mayor's badge and Past-Mayoress' badge to recognise their year in the role. This badge is often worn by Councillors at formal events to represent their status as a past Mayor. Each Mayor also receives an official framed photograph of themselves as Mayor at the end of their year in office.

At this year's Annual Mayor Making ceremony it was noted that there was no recognition of the role of Deputy Mayor and Mayoress/Consort in place.

In response to this, a request has been received from Councillor Redfern, the previous Deputy Mayor, that this should be included on the agenda for consideration by Members.

2. Proposal Details

Councillor Redfern has suggested that a certificate should be presented to the outgoing Deputy Mayor and Mayoress/Consort at Annual Council. He has also suggested that the certificates should be backdated to the previous Deputy Mayors/Mayoresses/Consorts for the past 10 years.

This could be undertaken by providing an appropriate framed certificate on similar lines to that provided to Honorary Aldermen and Councillors retiring after at least two terms of office.

Whilst the cost of this on an annual basis would not be great the only source of funding is the mayoral budget and for this reason the current Mayor's views have been obtained. He feels

that the proposal requires more detailed consideration and in particular believes that if agreed it should be a new initiative rather than being backdated as it would be difficult to draw a line as to how far this should go and would involve a higher level of expenditure in the initial year.

Members are asked to consider this request and if the Committee is minded to introduce such certificates, Members are requested to consider if these should be backdated as suggested.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The work of the Mayor supports the Council's Core Value to lead our communities.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

There are no direct implications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Framed certificates can be produced at minimal cost on the same lines as those presented to Aldermen and retiring Councillors who have served at least 8 years. The estimated cost of a frame and colour photocopy is no more than £10.

The cost of implementation would however have to be met from within the existing Mayoral budget. This currently stands at £8,400 having been reduced from £12,200 in 2009/10 and £14,800 in 2008/09.

Although a minimal cost, this would therefore further restrict the funding available to the Mayor for civic events and hospitality.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Deputy Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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