



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

22 March 2021

Agenda Status: Public

Directorate: Chief Executive

Report Title	INSTALLATION OF HONORARY FREEDOM TO COUNCILLOR TIM HADLAND
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1. Purpose

- 1.1 For the Council to confirm that it wishes to confer the status of Honorary Freedom of the Borough to Councillor Tim Hadland.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Council confirms that it wishes to confer the status of Honorary Freedom on the Councillor Tim Hadland, in recognition of his public service contribution to the people of the Northampton.
- 2.2 It is further recommended that if recommendation 2.1 is approved, Council agrees, at this this meeting on 22 March 2021 to install Councillor Tim Hadland with the Council's Freedom.
- 2.3 That the power is delegated to the Chief Executive to take any actions to finalise the arrangements once approved by Council.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Borough Council can by resolution pass by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon, appoint to be an Honorary Freeman or Freewoman of the Borough, persons of distinction and persons who have , in the opinion of the Council , rendered eminent services to the Borough Council and people of Northampton.
- 3.1.2 Presentation of the Honorary Freedom is a single honour, accompanied by a special Council meeting and ceremony and the presentation of an engrossed

and illuminated scroll setting out the terms of the Council's resolution. The intention, if this report is approved is to confer the award at this Council meeting .The scroll can be accompanied by a decorated silver casket .

- 3.1.3 The Borough Council has in the past granted equivalent honours on a few occasions to organisations including three regimental 'marching freedoms' allowing ceremonial parades . The last such parade took place on the 19th. March, 2000 by the 118 Recovery Company REME of the Territorial Army Centre .
- 3.1.4 Any resolution to confer the title of Honorary Freedom must be passed by not less than two-thirds of the members of the Council at a meeting specially convened for the purpose.
- 3.1.5 The honour is purely ceremonial. However, the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to spend a reasonable sum for the purpose of presenting an address or a casket containing an address, to a person on whom they have conferred the title.
- 3.1.6 Councillor Tim Hadland's first councillor role was when he was elected to the County Council in 1977 to represent St Crispin Division. In 1991 he was elected to NBC, and immediately appointed as opposition finance spokesman. During his time at NBC, Councillor Tim Hadland has represented Weston ward and more recently Old Duston ward.
- 3.1.7 Councillor Tim Hadland has served as NBC Council Leader, Deputy Leader, Mayor, and for the past 10 years has been Cabinet Member Regeneration & Planning. During four interesting years between 1995 and 1999, he was Conservative Group Leader, Group Chairman, Group Treasurer and Secretary, Chief Whip, and spokesman on all Portfolio areas, as a result of being the only Conservative member of NBC! This, perhaps uniquely for a Conservative, resulted in an in depth profile of him appearing in the Guardian newspaper. Despite being the only Conservative member, Councillor Tim Hadland always comments that the Labour Administration at that time were always considerate towards him.
- 3.1.8 Councillor Tim Hadland has served on Board of the Royal & Derngate Theatres for 20 years, from the initial creation of the Theatres Trust, and has served on all NBC committees apart from planning and audit. He is much admired for his long standing dedication to NBC and to the town, his great knowledge, and for his sharp wit.
- 3.1.9 It is proposed to install Councillor Tim Hadland with the Honorary Freedom at a meeting to be held on the 22 March 2021. Members are requested to note that a two-thirds majority vote of those present will be required.

4 Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 This report is in line with existing Council policy.

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 The minor costs of this award can be met within budget.

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 There are no new legal implications besides compliance with Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act ,1972 and its requirement for a two thirds majority vote of those present for any individual nomination.

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 There are no direct equality implications

5 Background Papers

Email correspondence and meeting notes considering the nominations

George Candler
Chief Executive