

NON EXEMPT

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

13 April 2016

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN

Report by the Monitoring Officer

FOR DECISION

Cabinet Lead: Cllr Wilson – Governance and Logistics

Key Decision: N/A

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To seek approval of an amendment to the criteria for appointing Honorary Aldermen.

2.0 Recommendation

RECOMMENDED that the criteria for appointing Honorary Aldermen, agreed by the Council on 13 December 2006, be amended and approved as follows:

- (1) any former Councillor considered for appointment to the Aldermanic Bench must have served for a minimum of eight years;
- (2) subject to (1) above, any former Councillor nominated must have given outstanding service to the Council over and above a Councillor's normal duties; (which normal duties are defined in the Council's Constitution at Article 2.3 (a)). In particular they must have
 - (a) been a Chairman for at least two years of a principal member-level body, that being of the Cabinet, the Overview and Scrutiny Board, the Regulatory Committees, and other such Committees established from time to time; or
 - (b) a member of the Cabinet for at least three years; or
 - (c) Mayor of the Borough; and/or
 - (d) given other outstanding service to the Borough.

3.0 Summary

3.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 makes provision for conferring the title of Honorary Aldermen subject to the following:

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- (a) By resolution of not less than two-thirds of members voting at a specially convened meeting of the Council;
- (b) That, in the opinion of the Council, the person has rendered eminent service to the Council as a past member of the council, but who is not then a member of the Council.

3.2 At its meeting on 13 December 2006, the Council approved a the following additional criteria for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen, to be applied in conjunction with the provisions set out in 3.1 above:

1. in acknowledgement and recognition of the significance of an appointment to the Aldermanic bench, whilst there is no upper limit to the number of Honorary Aldermen there can be at any one time, the Council will not consider any proposal for an ex-member of the Council to be appointed until that person has ceased to be a member for one year;
2. any former Councillor considered for appointment **must** have served for a minimum of eight years;
3. ***always subject to (2) above***, any former Councillor nominated must have given eminent service to the Council over and above a Councillor's normal duties; (which normal duties are defined in the Councils Constitution at Article 2.3 (a)). In particular they must have
 - (a) been a Chairman for at least two years of a principal member-level body, that being of the Executive, the Overview and Scrutiny Boards, the Regulatory Committees, and other such Committees established from time to time; or
 - (b) a member of the Executive for at least three years; or
 - (c) Mayor of the Borough.

3.3 In recognising that, from time to time, there may be exceptional circumstances where the Council will wish to confer the title of Honorary Alderman upon a former Councillor who does not meet the criteria set out in 3.2 above but who has, in the view of the Council, otherwise rendered outstanding service to the Council over and above a Councillor's normal duties, it is therefore recommended that the Council considers amending the criteria to make provision for such an appointment to be made, should the Council be minded to do so in exceptional circumstances.

4.0 Implications

4.1 Resources:

An annual budget of £1,500 is set aside for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen.

4.2 Legal:

None arising directly from this item.

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- 4.3 **Strategy:**
None arising directly from this item.
- 4.4 **Risks:**
None arising directly from this item.
- 4.5 **Communications:**
None arising directly from this item.
- 4.6 **For the Community:**
None arising directly from this item.
- 4.7 **The Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been completed and concluded the following:**
Not applicable

Appendices:

None

Background Papers:

Report to the Executive 6 December 2006 and Council Resolution 13 December 2006

Agreed and signed off by:

Head of Legal Services: 24 March 2016

Head of Finance: 5 April 2016

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