

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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| Date of Meeting | Friday, 17 th March 2023 |
| Report Subject | Freedom of the County – Lord Barry Jones |
| Report Author | Head of Democratic Services |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is requested to consider granting the Freedom of the County of Flintshire to Lord Barry Jones in recognition of his long and distinguished political career, spanning over 50 years.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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| 1 | That Council confers upon Lord Barry Jones, the Freedom of the County of Flintshire under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 in recognition of his 52 years public service as a parliamentarian and his ongoing service and dedication to the local communities that make up Flintshire. |
| 2 | That the Council Chamber is renamed ' <i>The Lord Barry Jones Council Chamber</i> '. |

REPORT DETAILS

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| 1.00 | EXPLAINING THE FREEDOM OF THE COUNTY NOMINATION |
| 1.01 | In 2020, Lord Barry Jones would have celebrated 50 years as a parliamentarian representing the people of Flintshire. The Council previously made arrangements for the Council Chamber at County Hall to be renamed ' <i>The Lord Barry Jones Council Chamber</i> ' in recognition of this feat. Unfortunately, due to COVID and the restrictions in place at the time, the event did not take place. |
| 1.02 | It has since been suggested that, in addition to the renaming of the Council Chamber, bestowing the Freedom of the County of Flintshire on Lord Barry Jones would be a fitting tribute to his service and dedication to the local communities that make up Flintshire. |
| 1.03 | The nomination, agreed by all the Political Group Leaders of the Council, is to grant Lord Barry Jones the Freedom of the County of Flintshire, in recognition of his long and distinguished political career. Lord Jones has been an advocate for Flintshire throughout his career and continues to work tirelessly for the people, businesses, and community groups across the county. It is the highest accolade that a County Council can bestow. |
| 1.04 | The Freedom of the County is granted under Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972. The legislation provides that a County Council can grant the Freedom of the County to "persons of distinction" and "persons who have, in the opinion of the Authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area". |
| 1.05 | A resolution to admit Honorary Freemen or Honorary Freewomen must be passed at a specially convened meeting of the Council, where notice of the object of the meeting has been given and passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members of the Council who vote upon it. |
| 1.06 | The title of Honorary Freemen or Honorary Freewomen in Flintshire is purely honorary and does not confer any special rights or privileges. |

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| 2.00 | RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS |
| 2.01 | Whilst, no specific budget provision has been set aside for this purpose, in the event of there being any financial costs arising from this decision, it will need to be found from within the existing budget allocation of the relevant service. |

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| 3.00 | CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT |
| 3.01 | None. |

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| 4.00 | RISK MANAGEMENT |
| 4.01 | None identified. |

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| 5.00 | APPENDICES |
| 5.01 | None. |

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| 6.00 | LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS |
| 6.01 | Contact Officer: Steven Goodrum, Head of Democratic Services Telephone: 01352 702320 E-mail: Steven.Goodrum@flintshire.gov |

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| 7.00 | GLOSSARY OF TERMS |
| 7.01 | None. |