

CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF
DINAS A SIR CAERDYDD



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CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF

COUNCIL SUMMONS : **21 MAY 2015**

GWYS Y CYNGOR : **21 MAI 2015**

*You are summoned to attend an **Extraordinary Meeting** of the **COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF** which will be held at **CITY HALL, CATHAYS PARK, CARDIFF** on **Thursday, 21 May 2015 at 4.30pm** for the following purpose:*

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declaration of Interest**
- 3. Recording of Proceedings**
- 4. To consider the admission of the Royal Welsh as Honorary Freemen of the City and County of Cardiff under the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.**

Members are advised that a resolution to admit a person to be an Honorary Freeman must be passed by not less than two thirds of the Members voting thereon at the meeting.

Margaret Jones

COUNCILLOR MARGARET JONES

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of the City & County of Cardiff

County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW
15 May 2015

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AGENDA ITEM 4

**CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF
DINAS A SIR CAERDYDD**



EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL

21 MAY 2015

REPORT OF THE COUNTY CLERK AND MONITORING OFFICER

FREEDOM OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF

Reason for this Report

1. *Council is requested to consider granting the Freedom of the City and County of Cardiff to the Royal Welsh in recognition of their distinction and eminent services and their outstanding and acknowledged achievements on the international stage that have served to benefit Wales and the international community.*

Background

2. The Council has bestowed Honorary Freedom to 62 individuals and 10 organisations since its inception in 1886.
3. On 18 December 2008, Council approved the criteria set out below for conferring the honour of Freedom of the City to an individual, association or organisation as a means of acknowledging outstanding contribution made to the life of the City of Cardiff. Successful nominations need to meet at least one of the following:
 - a. an individual or organisation of outstanding and acknowledged merit, with close links to the City and County of Cardiff;
 - b. an individual or organisation who has made an outstanding and acknowledged contribution to the development of Cardiff, the Capital City for Wales;
 - c. an individual or organisation who demonstrates outstanding and acknowledged achievements on the international stage that have served to benefit the international community.

The Nomination

4. The nomination approved by all the Political Group Leaders of the Council is for the **Royal Welsh** in recognition of their distinction and eminent services to the City and County of Cardiff and their outstanding and acknowledged achievements on the international stage that have served to benefit the international community. This is so particularly over the last 10 -15 years when the Regiment has been heavily involved in conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.
5. The Welch Regiment was an infantry regiment of the British Army. Until 1920 it was called the "Welsh Regiment". The regiment was in existence from 1881 to 1969 when it was amalgamated with the South Wales Borderers to form the Royal Regiment of Wales which was, in 2006, amalgamated with the Royal Welch Fusiliers to form the Royal Welsh.
6. The Freedom of The City was conferred upon the Welch Regiment on the 10 June 1944; The Royal Regiment of Wales on the 11 June 1969 and The Royal Welch Fusiliers on the 7 November 1973. However a new resolution of Council is required to award the Freedom to the Royal Welsh.
7. On the 11 June, Her Majesty the Queen will present new Colours to the Regiment in the Millennium Stadium. This event will be attended by several thousand Welsh service men and women, serving and retired and their families together with members of the public.
8. This will be by far the largest and most important event the Regiment will stage for 25 years. It is intended as an opportunity to thank welsh people for their continued support, not only recently in Iraq and Afghanistan but also over the centuries. The presentation of the new colours takes place during the year commemorating the bicentenary of Waterloo as well as the centenary years of World War One.
9. A service will be held to consecrate the new Colours on the 11 June 2015 and if agreed by council today it is proposed to include the presentation of the Freedom of the City and County of Cardiff as part of this significant occasion

Legal Implications

10. The Freedom of the City is granted under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972. This section provides that the Freedom of the City can be bestowed on "persons of distinction" and "persons who have, in the opinion of the Authority, rendered eminent services to the City or area

Financial Implications

11. In the event of there being any financial costs arising from this decision, this will need to be found from within the existing budget allocation of Protocol office or Corporate Management. No specific budget provision has been set aside for this purpose.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council considers and agrees:

- (1) the admission as **Honorary Freemen** of the City and County of Cardiff of the **Royal Welsh** under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 in recognition of their distinction and eminent services to the City and County of Cardiff and
- (2) that the Chief Executive be granted delegated authority to make suitable arrangements for the freedom ceremonies, parades and events in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Lord Mayor.

Marie Rosenthal
County Clerk and Monitoring Officer
15 May 2015

Background Papers

Council Report, 18 December 2008
Nomination Correspondence