



REPORT TO CABINET

DATE OF MEETING	8 th September 2026
REPORT TITLE	Appointment of Honorary Aldermen
LEAD MEMBER	Leader of the Council, Councillor Beales
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Executive, Kate Blakemore
CONSULTEES	All Group Leaders
WARDS AFFECTED	None

KEY DECISION	NO
DECISION MAKER	Recommendations to Council
IS THE REPORT OPEN OR EXEMPT	OPEN

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	YES
HR IMPLICATIONS	NO
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	NO
STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS	NO
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	NO
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS	NO
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT COMPLETED	Pre-screen completed.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report invites Members to consider conferring the title of Honorary Alderman on the following former Councillors in recognition of their eminent services to the Borough:

- Carol Bower
- Colin Manning
- Lesley Bambridge
- Lord Greville Howard

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation to Full Council:

1. That the Council places on record its sincere appreciation and gratitude for the eminent services rendered to the Borough Council by former Councillors Carol Bower, Colin Manning, Lesley Bambridge and Lord Greville Howard.
2. That, pursuant to Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred upon former Councillors Carol Bower, Colin Manning, Lesley Bambridge and Lord Greville Howard in recognition of their eminent service to the Borough.
3. That an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council be convened on Thursday 29 October 2026, immediately following the ordinary meeting of the Council, for the formal conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman and the presentation of aldermanic badges to the recipients.



REASON FOR DECISION

To formally recognise and record the Council's appreciation of the service of the former Borough Councillors listed above through the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman and the holding of an Extraordinary Council meeting for that purpose.

CORPORATE STRATEGY

How does this proposal support our Corporate Priorities [Our priorities | Corporate Strategy 2023 - 2027 | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk](#)

Promote growth and prosperity to benefit West Norfolk	The recommendations promote the value of public service and civic engagement.
Protect our Environment	
Efficient and effective delivery of our services	
Support our communities	The recommendations support this Corporate Priority in that they recognise and celebrate individuals who have made a contribution to the Borough and community leadership through their service as elected Members.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Background

1.1 Under the Local Government Act 1972 (section 249) "the Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereon at a Special Meeting of the Council called specifically for that purpose, confer the title of Honorary Alderman on persons who have in the opinion of the Council rendered eminent services to the council as past members of that council, but who are not then councillors of the council"

1.2 The following criteria has been taken into account when making the nominations:

- (a) Having held high office – e.g Mayor or Cabinet position or Committee Chair.
- (b) Having held some lesser office – e.g Deputy Mayor, Vice Chair, but also having demonstrated eminent service such as long service as a Borough Councillor.
- (c) Other eminent Service in the capacity of a Councillor, for example representing the Council on important outside bodies.
- (d) Recognition across the Council that the former Member has provided eminent service, albeit non-specific, by virtue of their contributions over many years.
- (e) No known misdemeanours.



2. Proposal

2.1 It is recommended that the former Councillors listed below be nominated to Full Council for consideration for the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman, in recognition of the eminent service they have rendered to the Borough. Detail of the key positions held during their time as Borough Councillors is set out below.

Carol Bower	Mayor 2017/2018 Vice Chair of Planning Vice Chair of Environment and Community Panel.
Colin Manning	Mayor 2015/2016 Vice Chair of Resources and Performance Panel Vice Chair of Licensing Committee
Lord Howard	Cabinet Member
Lesley Bambridge	Mayor 2022/2023 Vice Chair of Environment and Community Panel

2.2 Subject to Cabinet recommending, and Full Council approving, the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman on the former Councillors named above, the proposed timetable for the award is as follows:

- Cabinet recommendations to be submitted to Full Council on 24th September for consideration
- An Extraordinary Council meeting to be held immediately after the ordinary council meeting on 29th October 2026, to bestow the award.

3. Options Considered

The Council could choose not to confer the title of Honorary Alderman prior to Local Government Reorganisation.

4. Financial Implications

The cost of each Honorary Alderman badge and engrossments is approximately £1,000. There will also be a cost associated with the reception to be hosted by the Mayor after the ceremony which ordinarily costs around £1,500 dependent on the number of guests.

5. HR Implications

None.

6. Policy Implications



None.

7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications and considerations

None.

8. Statutory and Legal Implications

8.1 The process complies with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 249.

9. Local Government Reorganisation Implications

None.

10. Health and Safety Implications

None.

11. Consultees

Group Leaders.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

Pre-screening equality impact assessment is completed below. There is no impact.

13. Risk Management Implications

None

14. Conclusion

The recommendations set out in this report provide the Council with the opportunity to formally recognise and record its appreciation of the former Councillors service and achievements and agree arrangements for an Extraordinary Council meeting to confer the awards.

LIST OF APPENDICES
None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS
None

PRE SCREENING EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT



For equalities profile information please visit [Norfolk Insight - Demographics and Statistics - Data Observatory](#)

Name of policy/service/function	Appointment of Honorary Aldermen			
Is this a new or existing policy/service/function? (tick as appropriate)	New		Existing	X
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened.	This report recommends to Full Council that the former Councillors, as listed in the report be awarded Honorary Alderman status.			
Please state if this policy/service is rigidly constrained by statutory obligations, and identify relevant legislation.	Local Government Act 1972, Section 249			
Who has been consulted as part of the development of the policy/service/function? – new only (identify stakeholders consulted with)	Cabinet Members Group Leaders Civics			

Question

Answer

1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?

Please tick the relevant box for each group.

NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.

If potential adverse impacts are identified, then a full Equality Impact Assessment (Stage 2) will be required.

*For more information on health inequalities please visit [The King's Fund](#)

	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
Age			x	
Disability			x	
Sex			x	
Gender Re-assignment			x	
Marriage/civil partnership			x	
Pregnancy & maternity			x	
Race			x	
Religion or belief			x	
Sexual orientation			x	
Armed forces community			x	
Care leavers			x	
Health inequalities*			x	
Other (eg low income, caring responsibilities)			x	



Please provide a brief explanation of the answers above: The recommendations in this report relate solely to the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillors in recognition of their eminent service to the Borough. The proposals do not affect the delivery of Council services, policies, employment practices or access to services and opportunities. Accordingly, no adverse impact on any individual or group with protected characteristics has been identified.

Question	Answer	Comments	
2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?	No		
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?	No		
If 'yes' to questions 2 - 3 a full impact assessment will be required unless comments are provided to explain why this is not felt necessary:			
Decision agreed by EWG member:			
4. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions? If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section	n/a	Actions:	
		Actions agreed by EWG member:	
5. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?	n/a	Please provide brief summary:	
Assessment completed by:	Rebecca Parker		
Name			
Job title	Democratic Services Manager		
Date completed	23 rd July 2026		
Reviewed by EWG member	Alison Demonty	Date	24 th July 2026



✓ Please tick to confirm completed EIA Pre-screening Form has been shared with Corporate Policy (corporate.policy@west-norfolk.gov.uk)