



FULL COUNCIL REPORT

Date Written	Thursday, 16 February 2017
Report Author	Joe Murphy, Legal
Service Area	Chief Executive
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	22 nd February 2017

To: Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

RESOLUTION TO REVIVE THE TITLE ‘HONORARY RECORDER OF MERTHYR TYDFIL’

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Further to the resolution of council made on 2nd November 2016, Council Leader Brendan Toomey, Chief Executive Gareth Chapman and Council Solicitor Joseph Murphy met with Mrs Justice Nicola Davies - the Presiding Judge of the Wales Circuit to discuss the council’s intention to revive the title ‘Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil’.
- 1.2 The proposal met with judicial approval.
- 1.3 The present report seeks to amend the resolution passed on 2nd November 2016 in order to accommodate the observations of the Learned Judge.
- 1.4 Accordingly a formal Resolution of the Council is now sought to revoke the resolution dated 2nd November 2016 and an amended resolution is required to enable the Authority to restore the position and to invite a nominated Judge of the Crown court sitting at Merthyr Tydfil to accept this civic role.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that

- 2.1 The resolution dated 2nd November 2016 entitled ‘Resolution to revive the title ‘Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil and to appoint the Resident Judge of Merthyr Tydfil Crown Court’ be revoked.

- 2.2 The amended resolution to restore the civic position of Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil and that a nominated Judge of the Crown Court sitting at Merthyr Tydfil be invited to accept the role be approved.
- 2.3 That role should be expressly limited to the duration of his or her tenure as a Judge of the Crown court sitting in Merthyr Tydfil, with any subsequent appointee to the role of Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil requiring the approval of the council and Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales.
- 2.4 A ceremony, to involve Members of the Council and representatives of the judiciary, to formally present the nominated Judge with a scroll of admission as 'Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil' be approved.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Please see previous report to Council dated 2nd November 2016 for detailed background.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no significant financial implications for the Council progressing with the proposed approach. There are some minor financial implications insofar as the Honorary Recorder is included on the Civic list and invited to take part in Civic Ceremonies which may require the council to provide transport to such events from time to time.
- 4.2 In some instances other councils have provided chains of office but this is an optional matter and not mandatory.

5.0 SINGLE INTEGRATED PLAN AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT SUMMARY

- 5.1 The Single Integrated Plan & Sustainability Impact Assessment has been completed and the proposals positively impact upon most aspects of the Corporate Plan and Single Integrated Plan, including people who live and work in Merthyr Tydfil are supported to enjoy a healthier and better quality of life and enjoy a vibrant, attractive, safe and sustainable place in which to live, work play and visit and benefit from a strong, sustainable and diverse economy.

6.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full assessment is not required at this time. The form can be accessed on the Council's website/intranet via the 'Equality Impact Assessment' link.

GARETH CHAPMAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNCILLOR PHIL WILLIAMS
CABINET MEMBER FOR GOVERNANCE
AND CORPORATE SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
		Legal
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		No

Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.