
REPORT TO:	EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM: 3
DATE OF MEETING:	2nd NOVEMBER 2017	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	FRANK McARDLE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EXT: 5700) e-mail: frank.mcardle@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	FREEDOM OF ENTRY TO THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH DERBYSHIRE – 1211 (SWADLINCOTE AND DISTRICT) SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS	REF: FMCa/ED
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, Members of the 1211 (Swadlincote and District) Squadron Air Training Corps be admitted as Honorary Freemen of the District of South Derbyshire, in recognition of their distinguished service to the people of South Derbyshire.
- 1.2 That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to the certificate to be presented to the Squadron on its admission as Honorary Freemen of the District of South Derbyshire.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To confer the title of Honorary Freeman to members of the 1211 (Swadlincote and District) Squadron Air Training Corps.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 gives Councils the power to bestow the honour of Honorary Freeman and to grant “freedom of entry to the District” to persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area. This practice provides a dignified and satisfactory means of enabling the district to honour 1211 (Swadlincote and District) Squadron Air Training Corps, which is an organisation closely associated with the community of South Derbyshire.

3.2 To this end, an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council must be convened to specifically consider this matter, with two thirds of those present voting in favour of granting the 1211 (Swadlincote and District) Squadron Air Training Corps freedom of entry into the District “to march through the streets of the District with colours flying and bands playing.”

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The costs of the presentation certificate can be met from current civic budgets.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 Granting the freedom of the district should only be given in exceptional cases in order to maintain its kudos and standing. Once conferred, the freedom itself carries no privileges and is purely an honour to recognise the significance and valuable services rendered to the district by that organisation.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 The title of Honorary Freeman is the highest honour that a district can bestow, although it carries no privileges. However, those successful are able to use the title of Freeman and receive invitations to major civic events.

7.0 Background Papers

None