

Birmingham City Council
Council Business Management Committee

24 August 2020



Subject: **Appointment to the Roll of Honorary Aldermen**

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Interim City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

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Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 To propose that the Title of Honorary Alderman *Posthumous* be conferred on the late Councillor Keith Linnecor.
- 1.2 To recommend that this be considered at a special meeting of the Council at a time to be agreed.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the City Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman *Posthumous* on the late Councillor Keith Linnecor.
- 2.2 That a Special Meeting of the Council be held at ----- hours on ----- to consider the matter and, if approved, to authorise the Lord Mayor and the Leader of the Council to present the *Posthumous* Title to the family.

3 Background

- 3.1 Section 249 (i) of the Local Government Act 1972 allows a Council to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillors who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past members of that

Council. This requires a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting on it at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose.

- 3.2 In September 2007 the City Council conferred the Title of Honorary Alderman *Posthumous* on a Councillor who had died, in office, for the first time. It was acknowledged that that would set a precedent for the City Council. The then Chief Legal Officer was satisfied that the City Council had sufficient legal powers to confer the Title as it does not grant any rights that exist after the death of an Honorary Alderman. City Council also noted that any further Honorary Alderman *Posthumous* Titles will continue to be conferred, on a case by case basis and on the merits of the individual.
- 3.3 The City Council has instituted a Roll of Honorary Aldermen to which are admitted former Aldermen or Councillors of the City, the former City of Birmingham or the former borough of Sutton Coldfield who have
 - a) rendered a minimum of 15 years service as a member of any of these Councils
 - or
 - b) served for at least 12 years as a member of any of these Councils and given particularly notable service.Broken service is aggregated.
- 3.4 Members will be aware that Councillor Keith Linnecor passed away on 13 February 2020. He had served on the Council since May 1996, a total of 23 years 9 months. During his time on the Council Keith Linnecor served on a considerable number of Committees and was Cabinet Adviser (Fly Tipping) (2018-19) and Cabinet Adviser (Allotments) (2019-20). In addition, he was Deputy Chair of the Planning Committee 2019-2020.
- 3.5 To admit Honorary Aldermen, it is necessary to summon a special meeting of the Council to pass the appropriate resolution. The Lord Mayor will be requested to call such a meeting at a time to be agreed.