

Birmingham City Council

Council Business Management Committee

21 December 2020



Subject: Tributes
Report of: Suzanne Dodd, City Solicitor
Report author: Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 For members to consider how to proceed with tributes for Councillors and former Councillors who have died.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to determine how such tributes should be taken.

3 Background

- 3.1 At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, tributes for Councillors and former Councillors who had died were paused. It was felt more fitting for such tributes to be held when Council met in the Chamber.
- 3.2 However, as the pandemic, and therefore virtual meetings, have continued, there are now six tributes to be programmed:
- Honorary Alderman Peter Barwell
 - Former Councillor Dilawar Khan
 - Former Councillor Donald Bradman Brown
 - Honorary Alderman Freda Mary Longden-Parker
 - Former Councillor James Sweeney
 - Honorary Alderman Theresa Joyce Stewart

4 Options

- 4.1 Members of the Committee are asked to agree a way forward. Options include:
- To continue with the pause on tributes until Full Council meetings are held in the Chamber,

- To commence taking tributes as part of virtual meetings in January and February (perhaps three in January and three in February, using a backdrop of the Council House or Chamber);
- To commence taking tributes with those giving the tributes to be filmed in the Chamber, perhaps in advance of the meeting, to allow a video to be played at the start of the meeting (again, perhaps divided between future meetings).

4.2 The last option would require the support of IT and Communications teams.