

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF: SERVICE DIRECTOR, LAW AND GOVERNANCE**

**TITLE: Distinguished Service Award for Elected Members**

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>Council</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>23 February 2023</b>
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	<b>Core Services</b>
<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Public or Private</b>	<b>Public</b>

**Purpose of report**

To seek approval to introduce a Distinguished Service Award to recognise an elected Member who has demonstrated a sustained and outstanding service during their period of office and celebrate the positive impact that they have made to both the Council and their local community.

**Council Plan priority**

Enabling Barnsley

**Recommendations**

That Council approves:-

- 1.** The introduction of an elected Member Distinguished Service Award;
- 2.** The proposed criteria for receipt, namely:-
  - a) a currently serving Councillor with 30 years or more continuous service as an elected Member of Barnsley Metropolitan Council; and
  - b) who has made a notable contribution to the Borough over a sustained period of time; and
- 3.** The proposed recognition of a presentation gift at a meeting of full Council and invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting as an honorary attendee upon standing down as an elected Member.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Councillors are elected Members of Council with a democratic mandate from the local electorate. They are at the very heart of their communities, giving neighbourhoods a voice and making sure that people are involved in the decisions that affect them. Local councillors serve their communities and can make a real difference in the lives of the people that live there.

## **2. PROPOSAL**

2.1 It is proposed that a Distinguished Service award be introduced to recognise an elected Member who has demonstrated a sustained and outstanding service during their period of office and celebrate the positive impact that they have made to both the Council and their local community.

### **2.2 Proposed criteria**

The criteria for receiving the Distinguished Service Award would be:-

1. A currently serving Councillor with 30 years or more continuous or collective service as an elected Member of Barnsley Metropolitan Council; and
2. Who has made a notable contribution to the Borough over a sustained period of time.

This contribution might arise from :-

- Active participation on council committees or in special interest or volunteer groups,
- Serving on external bodies
- Service given to the local community,
- Other significant activity that has furthered the work of the Council, made a significant difference to residents or enhanced the reputation of our Town

### **2.3 Proposed recognition**

Eligible councillors will be presented with a gift at a meeting of full Council in March/April and be invited to attend the Annual General Meeting as an honorary attendee upon standing down as an elected Member.

### **2.4 Process**

2.4.1 Group Leaders (or the Independent Member) will nominate an elected Member for consideration of a Distinguished Service Award.

2.4.2 Any nomination should include a citation that demonstrates how that person fulfils the criteria set out a paragraph 2.2.

2.4.3 Nominations will be considered by a Panel to be chaired and convened by the Deputy Leader of the Council or a nominated representative. The Panel will be composed of elected Members and representation will be balanced to represent the political balance of the Council overall.

In the event of the Panel being unable to reach a consensus, then the decision will be taken by a majority vote.

The Panel will be advised by the Chief Executive or their nominee.

## **4. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **3.1 Financial and Risk**

Whilst there are no direct financial or procurement implications associated with the commencement of the process governing the award, there will be a one-off cost in purchasing a presentation gift at the time that the Council determines that it wishes to make an award, at an estimated cost of £500-£1000.

These costs will be contained within existing resources and be met from the Civic budget.

### **3.2 Legal**

There are no direct implications arising from this report.

### **3.3 Equality**

Not applicable

### **3.4 Sustainability**

Not applicable

## **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 Not to introduce an elected Member Distinguished Service Award.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 To recognise an elected Member who has demonstrated a sustained and outstanding service during their period of office and celebrate the positive impact that they have made to both the Council and their local community.

## **7. GLOSSARY**

Not applicable

**8. LIST OF APPENDICES**

Appendix A: Distinguished Service Award Protocol

**9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Not applicable

**10. REPORT SIGN OFF**

<b>Financial consultation &amp; sign off</b>	Vanessa Hunter 09/02/2023
<b>Legal consultation &amp; sign off</b>	Sukdave Ghuman 13/2/23

**Report Author:** Carol Tague  
**Post:** Head of Governance  
**Date:** 13 February 2023

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR ELECTED MEMBERS PROTOCOL**

The Distinguished Service Award is a recognition of an elected Member who has demonstrated a sustained and outstanding service during their period of office and celebrate the positive impact that they have made to both the Council and their local community.

### **1. Criteria**

- 1.1 A currently serving Councillor with 30 years or more continuous service as an elected Member of Barnsley Metropolitan Council; and
- 1.2 Who has made a notable contribution to the Borough over a sustained period of time.

This contribution might arise from :-

- Active participation on council committees or in special interest or volunteer groups,
- Serving on external bodies
- Service given to the local community,
- Other significant activity that has furthered the work of the Council, made a significant difference to residents or enhanced the reputation of our Town

### **2. Recognition**

Eligible councillors will be presented with a gift at a meeting of full Council in March/April and be invited to attend the Annual General Meeting as an honorary attendee upon standing down as an elected Member.

### **3. Process**

- 3.1 Group Leaders (or the Independent Member) will nominate an elected Member for consideration of a Distinguished Service Award.
- 3.2 Any nomination should include a citation that demonstrates how that person fulfils the criteria set out a Section 1.
- 3.3 Nominations will be considered by a Panel to be chaired and convened by the Deputy Leader of the Council or a nominated representative.
- 3.4 The Panel will be composed of elected Members and representation will be balanced to represent the political balance of the Council overall.
- 3.5 In the event of the Panel being unable to reach a consensus, then the decision will be taken by a majority vote.
- 3.6 The Panel will be advised by the Chief Executive or their nominee.