

NEWCASTLE-UNDER LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM TO COUNCIL

8 July, 2026

**APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN FOR
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME**

Submitted by: Civic and Member Support Officer

Portfolio: Legal, Governance and Organisational Performance

In accordance with the Council's decision on 4 June 2014 to adopt the principle of appointing Honorary Aldermen, the Mayor has called a Special Meeting of the Council to consider making such appointments.

Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables Council's to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past elected members. Thus, the title can only be conferred upon past members of the Council who are not councillors at the date of the meeting.

The Council's constitution in this matter is worded as follows:-

"That an Honorary Alderman shall at least:-

- a) Not be a serving Member of the Council.
- b) Be a person of distinction who has rendered eminent services to the Council and the community.
- c) Have served a period of not less than 12 years on the Council which may be continuous or discontinuous.
- d) Ordinarily have held a substantive office on the Council such as Mayor, Committee Chair, Group Leader, or Cabinet Member"

Criteria (d) above allows the flexibility to confer the title of Honorary Alderman for a former member who has either not served a full 12 years, or served for a substantial period, but not in a role of special responsibility, but none the less have rendered eminent services to the Council and the community.

Any decision to confer the title of Honorary Alderman must be made by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon at a special meeting of the Council.

Honorary Alderman are entitled to attend civic occasions as the Council may from time to time decide. They do not have any specific right to participate in the ordinary business of the Council.

The Council is now invited to consider appointing further Honorary Aldermen for Newcastle-under-Lyme by passing the following resolutions:-

David Allport

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 David Allport be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 11 years between 2011 and 2018 and 2022 and 2026 including the role as Vice-Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee, Cleaner, Greener and Safer Communities Scrutiny Committee and Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee.

Gillian Burnett-Faulkner

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Gillian Burnett-Faulkner be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for a period of 16 years between 2004 and 2008 and 2011 to 2015 and 2018 and 2026 including as Mayor in 2022/23, and serving as Chair of the Conservation Advisory Working Party and Vice-Chair on the Audit and Standards Committee.

Sylvia Dymond

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Sylvia Dymond be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 11 years between 2015 and 2026, her dedicated service to the Royal British Legion in the Kidsgrove area and as Chair of the Staffing Committee.

Trevor Johnson

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Trevor Johnson be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 12 years between 2002 and 2003 and 2015 and 2026. He was the Cabinet

Member who oversaw the initial upgrading of the Council's award-winning recycling service and was Chair of the Conservation Advisory Working Party.

Paul Northcott

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Paul Northcott be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 12 years between 2014 and 2026 including the role as Cabinet Member and Chair of the Planning Committee.

Mike Stubbs

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Mike Stubbs be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 14 years between 2012 and 2026 and as Leader of the Council, Labour Group Leader and Cabinet Member and Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee.

Stephen Sweeney

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Stephen Sweeney be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 20 years between 2006 and 2026 and as Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, Conservative Group Leader and Cabinet Member.

Paul Waring

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Paul Waring be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 15 years between 2011 and 2026 and as Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee and the Finance, Assets and Performance Scrutiny Committee.

Ian Wilkes

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Ian Wilkes be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the

Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 20 years between 2004 and 2016 and 2018 and 2026 including as Mayor in 2026/17 and as Chair and Vice Chair of the Health, Wellbeing and Environment Scrutiny Committee.

Gillian Williams

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Gillian Williams be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 33 years between 1993 and 2026 including as Mayor in 2001/02 and as Chair of the Cleaner, Greener and Safer Communities Scrutiny Committee and Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee.

John Williams

That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 John Williams be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 31 years between 1995 and 2026 including as Mayor's Consort in 2001/02 and as Cabinet Member and Chair of the Cleaner, Greener and Safer Communities Scrutiny Committee.

Ceremony for new Honorary Aldermen

Newly appointed Honorary Alderman will be invited to a special ceremony in the Autumn on a date to be agreed.