

Annual Council

15 May 2014

Agenda Item 2

Brighton & Hove City Council

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| Subject: | Mayoral Report 2013-14 | | |
| Date of Meeting: | 15 May 2014 | | |
| Report of: | Assistant Chief Executive | | |
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| Ward(s) affected: | ALL | | |

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report informs Council of the activities of the Mayor, Councillor Denise Cobb, during the civic year 2013-2014

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the report be noted

3. CONTEXT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 3.1 The Mayor is the first citizen of Brighton & Hove and carries out a range of civic and ceremonial duties, representing the council at hundreds of events across the city each year. Many local organisations contact the Mayor's office to request mayoral presence at their events which helps them to raise their profile; resulting in higher attendances, valuable publicity and increased opportunities for charitable income. In addition, during their year of office each Mayor raises thousands of pounds for their chosen charities and the Mayor's Parlour is offered free for the nominated Mayor's charities to hold fundraising events.
- 3.2 Like most mayors, the Mayor of Brighton & Hove is not elected directly by the people, holds no direct power and is politically neutral during his or her term of office. The role is largely ceremonial, unlike that of the Mayor of London and a small number of other directly elected mayors who hold political power.
- 3.3 The Mayor undertakes many different duties including:
- chairing meetings of the Full Council, including the council's budget setting meeting, making sure they are conducted properly and fairly.
 - supporting the main aims of the council
 - representing the council at public, civic and ceremonial events both in and outside the city

- Acting as an ambassador for the city and working with a wide range of local organisations

3.4 During her Mayoral year 2013/2013 the Mayor carried out in excess of 600 engagements of which:

- 36% involved community groups / associations and promoting the city
- 4% were associated with Faith Communities
- 3% related to Health
- 6% related to internal visits and supporting council projects/initiatives
- 3% involved youth organisations
- 5% were education related
- 2% involved school visits to the Mayors Parlour
- 7% were sport / leisure related
- 8% were culture / Arts related
- 2% were related to charities
- 9% were statutory or traditional events (including Citizenship ceremonies)
- 15% were meetings and briefings

3.5 The Mayor has attended many memorable events, including

- Remembrance Day Commemorations
- 'Peoples Day'
- 'Take Part'
- 'Anatomy for Life'
- 'Deanwood'
- Citizenship Ceremonies
- Volks Railway 130th birthday
- RNLI – safety campaign
- Sussex Beacon events
- Church & Faith festivals
- B&H Food Festival
- 25th Anniversary of St. Martins School
- Clock Tower celebrations
- Chestnut Treehouse events
- 20 year anniversary at City Court Church
- BBC 30th Anniversary
- 'Brightona' Cycles
- Kings School celebration
- Topping out at 'Azure' in Rottingdean
- 'Able & Willing'
- The city's first gay wedding

3.6 The Mayor's Parlour was used on many occasions throughout the year, including

- 8 School Visits
- 8 Civic Reception
- 4 Visits by representatives from other countries: Japan; Iraq; Egypt; Holland (The Wageningen Scouts)
- 12 Events for local charities

- 3.7 The Mayor acknowledges the work of the Youth Mayor, Hannah Ward-Penny and the Deputy Youth Mayor, Azdean Boulaich. Their energy, commitment and sense of civic duty have been a credit to the city and to young people.
- 3.8 The Mayor's chosen charities this year have been; 'Age UK Brighton & Hove', 'The Argus Appeal', 'The Martlets Hospice', 'Off the Fence' and 'Rockinghorse Children's Charity'. Funds raised over the year total approximately £25,000. The Mayor would like to thank members of the Charity Committee for their work.
- 3.9 The Mayor has offered her support to the development of the city's World War One Centenary programme, working with the armed forces, Royal British Legion, Faith and community groups and city stakeholders.
- 3.10 The Mayor has been assisted and supported this year by Councillor Bill Randall (Deputy Mayor) who attended over sixty events to represent the Mayoralty, and Councillor Anne Meadows, Councillor Ann Norman and Councillor Geoff Wells (Former Mayors). The Mayor acknowledges their support and offers thanks for their assistance.
- 3.11 The Mayor thanks her family and friends for their support; in particular her grandson, nephew and friends who have supported her at events.

4. ANALYSIS AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 Not required.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Mayor has been consulted on the contents of this report.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Mayoral report reflects the work and interests of the incumbent during their term in office; as such it has no formal designation and is presented as a historic record.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are none arising from this report.

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 There are none arising from this report.

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 There are none arising from this report.

Sustainability Implications:

7.4 There are none arising from this report.

Any Other Significant Implications:

7.5 There are no other significant implications.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

There are no supporting documents.