

2003 - 2004

HARROW COUNCIL  
COUNCIL SUMMONS

SPECIAL MEETING  
Thursday 22 January 2004





## COUNCIL SUMMONS

Law and Administration Division

Civic Centre

Harrow

14 January 2004

Dear Member

I hereby request and summon you to attend a **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW** to be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER** at the **CIVIC CENTRE, STATION ROAD, HARROW, on Thursday, 22nd day of January 2004 at 7.30 pm** to take into consideration the following numbered matters and to pass such resolutions and to make such orders thereon as may then be determined.

### PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain, Deacon Tony Martin, will open the meeting with Prayers.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

To receive declarations of interest (if any) from Members of the Committee arising from business to be transacted at this meeting.

2. **COUNCIL MINUTES:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2003, be deferred until the next Ordinary meeting of the Council (which is being held to follow on from this Special meeting).

3. **CONFERMENT OF THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH:** (Pages 1 - 14)

(1) Formally to receive Recommendation II (Proposed Conferment of Honorary Freedom of the London Borough of Harrow (Section 249: Local Government Act 1972) of the report of the Cabinet meeting of 16 December 2003; and

(2) to consider an officer report arising which confirms the details of the proposed recipient and the relevant requirements of Section 249, Local Government Act 1972.

**FOR DECISION**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Balabany', written in a cursive style.

Borough Solicitor

To: His Worship the Mayor and all Members of the Council of the London Borough of Harrow

<b>Meeting:</b>	COUNCIL (SPECIAL)
<b>Date:</b>	22 January 2004
<b>Subject:</b>	Conferment of Freedom of the Borough on Sir Roger Bannister
<b>Responsible Chief Officer:</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Status:</b>	Part I
<b>Ward:</b>	N/A
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Cabinet Recommendation II Report to the Cabinet 16 December 2003 Draft Form of Resolution Sir Roger Bannister – Synopsis Biography

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 The Council is convened in a Special Meeting under the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to consider Recommendation II from the Cabinet Meeting of 16 December 2003 proposing the conferment of honorary Freedom of the Borough.
- 1.2 This report confirms that the honour is proposed to be conferred on Sir Roger Bannister.

### 2. Recommendations (for decision by Council)

- 2.1 **That, further to Cabinet recommendation II (16 December 2003) and the provisions of Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do confer the Freedom of the Borough on Sir Roger Bannister and approve associated costs in recording the granting of the Freedom in an Illuminated Scroll in accordance with the provisions of Section 249(6). (A Form of Resolution is appended for approval and adoption).**

### 3. Consultation with Ward Councillors

- 3.1 N/A

### 4. Policy Context (including Relevant Previous Decisions)

- 4.1 To mark the fiftieth anniversary of Sir Roger Bannister's 1954 world record mile run and of the Authority's Incorporation as a Borough.
- 4.2 The attached report to the December Cabinet meeting provides further background to the policy of conferring Freedom of the Borough.

5. **Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

5.1 The attached report to the December Cabinet meeting indicates the Corporate relevance.

6. **Background Information and Options Considered**

6.1 Members are referred to the officer report submitted to the Cabinet meeting on 16 December 2003.

6.2 The merits of Sir Roger Bannister, who was born in Harrow, as the proposed recipient of the honour of Freedom of the Borough are set out in the attached synopsis biography.

6.3 The honour is proposed to be conferred in this year of 2004 appropriately both to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the outstanding sporting achievement of Sir Roger Bannister and in celebration of the Borough's fiftieth anniversary of Incorporation. These sentiments are reflected in the draft Resolution.

6.4 Sir Roger Bannister has been consulted and has indicated that he would welcome the honour now proposed to be conferred.

6.5 Under the provisions of Section 249 the conferment of the honour of Freedom of the Borough must be considered at a Special Meeting of the Council as the single issue (as now convened). A formal vote must be recorded on the object of conferring the honour and the resolution to be effective must be passed by not less than two thirds of the Members of Council present and voting.

7. **Consultation**

7.1 This matter arises from the consideration at Cabinet on 16 December 2003 and Recommendation II arising.

8. **Finance Observations**

8.1 The associated costs of providing an Illuminated Scroll can be contained within existing budgets.

9. **Legal Observations**

9.1 None

10. **Conclusion**

10.1 The Council is recommended to adopt Cabinet Recommendation II and to grant Freedom of the Borough to Sir Roger Bannister in the context of the fiftieth anniversaries.

11. **Background Papers**

11.1 See Enclosures

12. **Author**

Joyce Markham  
Chief Executive

# SPECIAL COUNCIL 22 JANUARY 2004

## CONFIRMATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

- (1) RECOMMENDATION II: CABINET (16 December 2003)
- (2) REPORT TO CABINET - 16 December 2003
- (3) DRAFT FORM OF RESOLUTION
- (4) SIR ROGER BANNISTER – SYNOPSIS BIOGRAPHY

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## REPORT OF CABINET

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### MEETING HELD ON 16 DECEMBER 2003

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Chair: \* Councillor Foulds

Councillors: \* D Ashton  
\* Burchell \* C Mote  
\* Margaret Davine \* O'Dell  
\* Dighé \* N Shah  
\* Miss Lyne \* Stephenson

\* Denotes Member present  
† Denotes apologies received

#### **PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

##### **RECOMMENDATION II - Proposed Conferment of Honorary Freedom of the London Borough of Harrow (Section 249: Local Government Act 1972)**

Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive in relation to the proposed conferment of honorary Freedom of the London Borough of Harrow.

Members noted that to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2004 of Harrow Urban District Council receiving its Charter of Incorporation as a Borough it was proposed to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough on persons of distinction who had rendered eminent services and were connected to the London Borough of Harrow.

Members noted that the power to award the honour of Freedom of the Borough was contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972. To invoke the provisions of Section 249 it was required that a special meeting of the full Council be convened for the purpose.

Cabinet, having agreed that the Mayor be invited to call a special meeting of the Council to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough, as required by Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, which it was proposed to be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 22 January 2004, prior to the scheduled Council meeting on that date

##### **Resolved to RECOMMEND:**

That (1) the Council be requested to invoke the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough of Harrow on persons to be notified in the Council Summons, to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2004 of the Borough's incorporation;

(2) that subject to (1) above, the granting of the Freedom be recorded in an illuminated Scroll and presented to the recipient(s) in an appropriate Casket and the commissioning and the associated costs be now approved, further to provisions of Section 249(6) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Reason for Recommendation:** To enhance the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Borough's incorporation with a formal civic honour of appropriate status.

(See also Minute 387).

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## LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

<b>Meeting:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2003
<b>Subject:</b>	Proposed Conferment of Honorary Freedom of the London Borough of Harrow (Section 249: Local Government Act 1972)
<b>Key decision:</b>	No
<b>Responsible Chief Officer:</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Relevant Portfolio Holder:</b>	Strategy and External Affairs
<b>Status:</b>	Part I (public)
<b>Ward:</b>	All
<b>Enclosures:</b>	None

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 To mark the fiftieth anniversary in 2004 of Harrow Urban District receiving its Charter of Incorporation as a Borough (4 May 1954), it is proposed to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough on persons of distinction who have rendered eminent services and are connected to the London Borough of Harrow.
- 1.2 The power to award the honour of Freedom of the Borough is contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972. To invoke the provisions of Section 249 it is required that a Special Meeting of the full Council be convened for the purpose.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Council be requested to invoke the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough of Harrow on persons to be notified in the Council Summons, to mark the fiftieth anniversary in 2004 of the Borough's incorporation;**
- 2.2 **that further to 2.1 the Mayor be invited to call a Special Meeting of the Council for this purpose, as required by Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, which it is proposed be held at 7.30 p.m., on Thursday 22 January 2004, prior to the scheduled Council Meeting on that date;**
- 2.3 **subject to 2.1 above, the granting of the Freedom be recorded in an illuminated Scroll and presented to the recipient(s) in an appropriate Casket, and the commissioning and associated costs be as now approved at this meeting, further to the provisions of Section 249(6) of the Local Government Act 1972.**

#### **REASON**

**To enhance the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the Borough's incorporation with a formal civic honour of appropriate status.**

**3. Consultation with Ward Councillors**

3.1 Not applicable.

**4. Policy Context (including Relevant Previous Decisions)**

4.1 Harrow Urban District received its Charter of Incorporation as a Borough on 4 May 1954 and accordingly 2004 marks the fiftieth anniversary year of the event.

4.2 In the following year to the Incorporation, the new Borough conferred upon the late Sir Winston Churchill the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of Harrow. The Honorary Freedom was also conferred on the following individuals (William Allen, A. E. Amor, Charles Jordan and Francis Telfer in 1968) (George Gange and Horace Cutler in 1977).

4.3 The singular honour of Freedom of the Borough has been invoked over the intervening years to celebrate milestones achieved by local organisations. In 1983 a number of locally based Territorial Army units were honoured. The honour was awarded to RAF Stations Stanmore Park and Bentley Priory in October 1988 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of Stanmore Park Station and in recognition of the imminent fiftieth anniversary of the roles played by both Stations in the Battle of Britain in 1940. The Christ Church, Roxeth and Harrow Company of the Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade was honoured in October 1994 with Freedom of the Borough to mark the Company's one hundredth anniversary of continuous service in Harrow. In October 1996 The Royal British Legion Harrow Branch was awarded the honour in recognition of its seventy fifth anniversary.

4.4 Accordingly, it is proposed that as part of the Council's formal celebrations in 2004 of its fiftieth anniversary of Incorporation consideration be given to marking the occasion by conferring the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

**5. Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

The proposed celebration of the fiftieth anniversary through 2004 of the Borough's Charter of Incorporation, of which the conferment of Honorary Freedom will be a signal element, will contribute to the strengthening of Harrow's local communities raise aspirations to succeed and reflect achievements.

**6. Section 249: Local Government Act 1972**

6.1 Section 249 (5) of the Act states:-

"The Council of a London Borough..... may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose with notice of the object admit to be honorary freemen of the city borough ..... persons of distinction who have in the opinion of the Council rendered eminent services to the city borough....."

6.2 Section 249 (6) of the Act states:-

"The Council of a London Borough..... may spend such reasonable sum as they think fit for the purpose of presenting an address or a casket containing an address to

a person upon whom they have conferred the title ..... to be an honorary freeman of the city borough.”

**7. Proposed Recipient(s) of the Honorary Freedom**

7.1 In anticipation that the Council would consider the proposal to confer honorary Freedom of the Borough appropriate to the fiftieth anniversary of Incorporation, the matter has been the subject of prior consultation with the leaderships of the political groups represented on the Authority.

7.2 Further to that consultation approaches have been made informally to persons of distinction with connections to the Borough and confirmation of the proposed recipients will be notified in a Special Council Summons.

**8. Arrangements for a Freedom Scroll**

8.1 Arrangements are currently in process.

**9. Procedure**

9.1 It will be noted as a requirement of Section 249 (5) that if the Authority is to proceed with the conferment of the honorary Freedom of the Borough a special meeting of the Council must be convened for the purpose.

9.2 On those previous occasions when the Authority has formally conferred honorary titles, the special meeting has been held immediately prior to an already arranged meeting of the Council. The special meeting may only have the single issue of the proposed admission of honorary freemen on the Summons and would therefore be anticipated to be of short duration. A formal vote on the object of conferring the honour must be recorded. The resolution must be passed by not less than two thirds of the Members of Council present and voting.

9.3 Arising from this proposed arrangement, the opportunity to convene a special meeting would next arise on 22 January 2004. There would be advantage in the choice of January, given that the Council Tax and Budget will be determined at the February meeting and deferring until April would not provide certainty until late in the year and would impinge on administrative preparations. It is presumed that a formal ceremony to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough would be held in May 2004 and this is proposed to be in the context of an appropriate event within the fiftieth anniversary programme.

**10. Consultation**

10.1 None required.

**11. Finance Observations**

11.1 Can be met from within existing budgets.

**12. Legal Observations**

12.1 None.

**13. Conclusions**

13.1 Cabinet is invited to consider the proposals that:-

13.1.1 the fiftieth anniversary in 2004 of the Incorporation of Harrow as a Borough be marked by the conferment of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough under the provisions of Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, and the Council be recommended accordingly;

13.1.2 the special meeting of the Council to be held for this purpose, be on 22 January 2004 and so commended to the Mayor;

13.1.3 the commissioning of a Freedom Scroll and Casket for presentation to recipients, with associated costs, be now approved.

**FOR DECISION**

Joyce Markham  
Chief Executive

**THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - 22 JANUARY 2004**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED:**

That in accordance with the provisions of Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council of the London Borough of Harrow

**DO CONFER THE**  
**FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH**  
**ON**  
**SIR ROGER BANNISTER**

in recognition of the fiftieth anniversary of his achievement on 6 May 1954 in establishing the then world record of running the mile distance in less than four minutes for the first time

and

that this honour of Freedom the Borough be now so conferred on Sir Roger Bannister appropriately in the current year of 2004 in further joint commemoration and celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Harrow's Charter of Incorporation as a Borough on 4 May 1954.

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## **THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW**

### **CONFERMENT OF THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH**

#### **SECTION 249 (5): LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

##### **SIR ROGER BANNISTER**

Roger Bannister was born in Harrow on 23 March 1929 and commenced his education in the Borough. The family subsequently moved to Bath.

Having entered Oxford University in 1946, he combined his academic studies with a talent for athletics. He established a reputation for competing at the mile and 1500 metre distances.

He missed the 1948 Olympics in preference for concentrating on his medical studies. In 1951 he captured the British title in the mile and was selected for the 1952 British Olympic Team and came 4<sup>th</sup> in the 1500 metres in Helsinki.

Roger Bannister decided to continue running for a further two years. His preparations were undertaken whilst he was in full-time medical studies at St.Mary's Hospital Medical School.

The attempt on the mile record was staged at an athletics meet in Oxford on 6 May 1954, with Roger Bannister's friends, Chris Chataway and Chris Brasher acting as pace makers for the first three laps. Roger Bannister at age 25 had completed that mile race in 3 minutes 59.4 seconds to become the first person to break the four minute barrier. He was awarded the 1954 Silver Pears Trophy for the outstanding British achievement in any field. It was recognised as possibly the most significant athletic feat of the twentieth century.

He subsequently ran at that summer's British Empire Games in Vancouver in the race billed as "The mile of the Century" which he won to beat Australian John Landy, both runners completing the mile in under four minutes again. He also secured the European title and record in the 1500 metres before retiring from competition in December 1954.

Roger Bannister completed his medical studies in 1954 and was appointed Consultant Neurologist in 1963 at St Mary's Hospital Medical School, Paddington and the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queen's Square, London and for the next three decades combined a career in research with clinical practice. After recovering from a serious car accident he devoted more time to research. He maintained an interest in athletics, serving as Chairman of the Sports Council of Great Britain from 1971 to 1974, and as President of the International Council for Sport and Physical Recreation from 1976 to 1983.

Dr. Bannister was knighted in 1975.

Sir Roger Bannister became Master of Pembroke in 1985, retiring in 1993.

Sir Roger Bannister was appointed Trustee of St Mary's Hospital Development Trust in 1990 becoming chairman in 2000, and additionally in 1990 was appointed honorary consultant at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases and St Mary's Hospital, London

