

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Councillor Mark Pritchard, Leader of the Council
<b>REPORT NO:</b>	HCCS/06/2018
<b>DATE:</b>	17 January 2018
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	Head of Corporate and Customer Services
<b>CONTACT</b>	Rachel Edwards (Tel: 292278)
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Attendance at Royal Garden Parties 2018
<b>WARD:</b>	N/A

## **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To nominate Council guests to attend a Royal Garden Party in 2018.

## **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Local Government Association (LGA) has been asked to submit to the Lord Chamberlain's Office a list of the names of representatives (drawn from authorities in membership of the LGA in England and Wales) who are recommended for invitation to this year's Royal Garden Parties.
- 2.2 Places are allocated on a population basis and Wrexham's allocation is four places.
- 2.3 Nominations must be submitted to the LGA by no later than Friday, 26 January 2018, although the LGA have indicated that applications are dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis should any one date be over-subscribed.
- 2.4 Customarily the Civic Head and Consort/Mayoress have represented the Council along with a nominated Member and spouse/partner. But as the incoming Mayor, Councillor Andy Williams, and the incoming Mayoress, Mrs Beverley Williams, previously attended a Royal Garden Party in 2015, they are not permitted to attend. Therefore, the Authority's allocation of four places will be made up of two nominated Councillors and their spouse/partner or guest.

## **3 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 **That two nominated Councillors and along with their spouse/partner, represent the Council at one of the 2018 Royal Garden Parties.**
- 3.2 **That this matter be dealt with as an urgent item of business in accordance with Standing Order 43(1) of the Council's Standing Orders.**

## REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To ensure that the Council is represented at one of the 2018 Royal Garden Parties and nominations are submitted before the required deadline.

### 4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 The LGA has invited the Council to put forward nominations for invitation to the Royal Garden Parties which will be held at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, 15 May, Thursday 31 May or Thursday, 5 June 2018.
- 4.2 Places are allocated on a population basis and Wrexham's allocation is four places.
- 4.3 It is customary for serving Civic Heads and their Consorts to be included in authorities' nominations, although the incoming Mayor is not able to attend (see 2.4).
- 4.4 The advice of the Lord Chamberlain's office is that all nominated guests should be accompanied unless he/she specifically requests otherwise and **should not have previously attended a Royal Garden Party**. The Lord Chamberlain takes the view that invitations are in recognition of past service and it is, therefore, appropriate that outgoing Members, rather than those newly elected, should be invited to attend.
- 4.5 Nominations should be submitted by Friday, 26 January 2018 and the LGA advise that late nominations will not be accepted.
- 4.6 All Group Leaders/Members of the Council were consulted and requested to submit nominations by Friday, 22 December 2017. Nominations were received for Cllr Derek and Mrs Gaynor Wright and Cllr Hugh Jones and guest
- 4.7 **Policy Framework** – The selection of nominees for invitation to the Royal Garden Parties is delegated matter for determination by the Leader of the Council.
- 4.8 **Budget** – All the expenses associated with this visit will be met from the Members expenses budget.
- 4.9 **Legal** – This matter poses no legal implications for the Authority
- 4.10 **Staffing** – The nomination of representatives to attend the Royal Garden Parties will pose no staffing implications for the Authority.
- 4.11 **Equality/Human Rights** – This matter does not present any equality or diversity implications.
- 4.12 **Risks** – not applicable

### 5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 All Group Leaders/Members of the Council have been consulted for nominations.

### 6. EVALUATION OF OPTIONS

- 6.1 Not applicable

BACKGROUND PAPERS	LOCATION	WEBSITE INFO.
Local Government Association Alert	Democratic Services Department, Guildhall	