

ATTENDANCE AT THE ROYAL GARDEN PARTY 2020

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To agree attendance at a Royal Garden Party next summer and use of the Civic Car and Civic Chauffeur to transport attendees.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council is usually invited to nominate representatives to attend a Royal Garden Party held at Buckingham Palace each summer. Invitations are extended in recognition of past service.
- 2.2 It is anticipated that the next invitation will arrive in late December 2019 for attendance at a Royal Garden Party in May or June 2020.

3 SALIENT INFORMATION

- 3.1 In previous years Members have been nominated to attend the Royal Garden Party in strict order of seniority based on total length of service and the Civic Car and Civic Chauffeur have been made available to transport them.
- 3.2 Local Government Association guidance states that “nominated and accompanying guests should not have previously attended a Royal Garden Party either as a main or an accompanying guest.” Records are checked by the Palace and if nominees are found to have attended previously they will not be permitted to attend, thus forfeiting the Council’s ticket allocation for that year’s Royal Garden Party.
- 3.3 Taking into account the information in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 above, the Members eligible to attend next are Cllrs M Hoy (10 years’ service) and Mrs D Hoy (9 years’ service).
- 3.4 As these two Councillors have indicated that they would not wish to take a guest with them to the Garden Party, a further representative (plus a guest of their choice) can be nominated.
- 3.5 Cllr Mrs J E McPherson has 8 years’ service and is therefore also eligible to attend.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The costs of attending the Royal Garden Party can be met from existing budgets.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from any of the above information.

6 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and found there to be no impacts (either positive or negative) on protected groups, as defined under the Equality Act 2010.

7 RECOMMENDATION

7.1 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**

- (1) That Cllrs Mrs D Hoy and M Hoy and Mrs J E McPherson and guest be nominated to attend forthcoming Royal Garden Party invitations.
- (2) That the Civic Officer submit the nominations to attend a Royal Garden Party once confirmation of the Council's allocation is received from the Palace.
- (3) That the Civic Car and Civic Chauffeur be used to transport attendees representing Rochford District Council at the Royal Garden Parties.



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Background Papers:-

None.

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