



Subject:	Freedom of the City for Sir Kenneth Branagh
Date:	22nd September, 2017
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager Ext 6314
Contact Officer:	As Above

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider a proposal that the Council award the Freedom of the City to Sir Kenneth Branagh.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is recommended to agree to award the Freedom of the City to Sir Kenneth Branagh and that a Special Meeting of the Council be convened at 6.00 pm on Monday, 2nd October, 2017, immediately prior to the monthly Council meeting for that purpose.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
<p>3.1</p> <p>3.1.1</p> <p>3.1.2</p> <p>3.1.3</p> <p>3.1.4</p>	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Committee, at its meeting in November 2015 adopted the following process for future proposals for the award of the Freedom of the City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When a request is received from a Member of Council or a member of the public for the Freedom of the City to be conferred, the Democratic Services Manager will liaise with the Party Leaders on the Council to ascertain the level of support which the proposal would have.</li> <li>• Once the level of support is known, a report will be submitted in the first instance to the Budget and Transformation Panel so that an informal discussion of the proposal can take place and any minor issues resolved.</li> <li>• If there is at least 2/3 of the whole number of Members (40 Member) supportive of the proposal, then the Chief Executive will contact the proposed recipient to ask if they would be amenable to accepting the award should the Council offer it. If there is a positive response, a report will be submitted to the next available meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee recommending that the award be made and requesting it to set a date for a meeting of the Council to formally consider the proposal.</li> </ul> <p>A request was received in April, 2017 from the then Lord Mayor, Alderman Brian Kingston, that the Council consider awarding the Freedom of the City to Sir Kenneth Branagh, given that he was born in the city and recognising his outstanding achievements and international status in drama and cinema, as an actor, director, producer and screenwriter.</p> <p>In accordance with existing Council policy on the award of the Freedom of the City, the views of the Party Groups on the Council have been sought as to whether or not they would be supportive of such a suggestion. Parties have responded and there is overwhelming support for the award to be made. Sir Kenneth has indicated that he would be honoured to accept the award.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Committee is recommended to agree to award the Freedom of the City to Sir Kenneth Branagh and that a Special Meeting of the Council be convened at 6.00 pm on Monday, 2nd October, 2017, immediately prior to the monthly Council meeting for that purpose.</p>
<p>3.2</p> <p>3.2.1</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.3.1</p>	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>A report on the cost will be brought back to the Committee.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are not any equality or good relations considerations associated with this report.</p>