

Audit, Governance and Standards (Civic Awards) Sub-Committee

Tuesday 10 March 2020

6.30 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02c, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE (Chair)
Councillor Humaira Ali
Councillor Tom Flynn
Councillor Andy Simmons
Matthew Allgood
Sarah Gibb
Ken Hayes
Pauline Nandoo

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information

You have the right to request to inspect copies of minutes and reports on this agenda as well as the background documents used in the preparation of these reports.

Babysitting/Carers allowances

If you are a resident of the borough and have paid someone to look after your children, an elderly dependant or a dependant with disabilities so that you could attend this meeting, you may claim an allowance from the council. Please collect a claim form at the meeting.

Access

The council is committed to making its meetings accessible. Further details on building access, translation, provision of signers etc for this meeting are on the council's web site: www.southwark.gov.uk or please contact the person below.

Contact: Gerald Gohler, Tel: 020 7525 7420 or email: gerald.gohler@southwark.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Eleanor Kelly

Chief Executive

Date: 2 March 2020



Audit, Governance and Standards (Civic Awards) Sub-Committee

Tuesday 10 March 2020

6.30 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02c, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
1.	APOLOGIES	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS	
	A representative of each political group will confirm the voting members of the committee.	
3.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT	
	In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear days of the meeting.	
4.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
	Members to declare any personal interests and dispensation in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
5.	MINUTES	1 - 3
	To approve as a correct record the minutes of the open section of the meeting held on 11 March 2019.	
6.	SOUTHWARK CIVIC AWARDS 2020	4 - 9

Item No.

Title

Page No.

1. To consider the short-listed nominations for civic awards outlined in the closed report and grant awards as appropriate.
2. To consider the nomination from the Mayor (if any, outlined in the closed report) for a discretionary award and grant the award as appropriate.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING AND ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR AS URGENT

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following motion should be moved, seconded and approved if the sub-committee wishes to exclude the press and public to deal with reports revealing exempt information:

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1-7, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.”

Date: 2 March 2020



Audit, Governance and Standards (Civic Awards) Sub-Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Audit, Governance and Standards (Civic Awards) Sub-Committee held on Monday 11 March 2019 at 6.00 pm in Ground Floor Meeting Room G02c, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Gavin Edwards (Chair)
 Councillor Humaira Ali
 Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE
 Councillor Bill Williams
 David Tobi Ayeni
 Paul Rymer
 Anne Wolfe

OFFICER Stephen Douglass (Director of Communities)
SUPPORT: Norman Coombe (Head of the Corporate Legal Team)
 Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. APOLOGIES

There were none.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The councillors present were confirmed as voting members.

3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

In addition to the open agenda papers, the following paper had been circulated:

Supplemental closed agenda No.1 - containing the closed report with nominations for the Civic Awards 2019.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The following councillors declared an interest in relation to items 6 and 7 - Southwark Civic Award 2019 Nominations:

Councillor Bill Williams, non-pecuniary, as he had nominated one of the nominees.

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE, non-pecuniary, as she had previously been the chair of one of the organisations nominated.

The following co-optees declared an interest in relation to items 6 and 7 - Southwark Civic Award 2019 Nominations:

Anne Wolfe, non-pecuniary, as she had nominated one of the nominees and had once been involved in the same organisation as another nominee.

David Tobi Ayeni, non-pecuniary, as one of the nominees was a fellow youth councillor.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the open section of meeting held on 26 March 2018 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

6. SOUTHWARK CIVIC AWARDS 2019

RESOLVED:

1. That the sub-committee considers the short-listed nominations for civic awards outlined in the closed report and grant awards as appropriate (see paragraph 6 of the report).
2. That the sub-committee considers the nomination from the Mayor (outlined in the closed report) for a discretionary award.
3. That the public be excluded from the meeting to consider the nominations for Civic Awards 2019 on the grounds that the item involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in category 1 of paragraph 10.8 of the Access to Information procedure rules of the constitution.
4. That the co-opted members be allowed to remain in the closed session.

7. MINUTES

The decision for this item is listed in the closed minutes.

8. SOUTHWARK CIVIC AWARDS 2019 NOMINATIONS

The decision for this item is listed in the closed minutes.

The meeting ended at 6.35 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

Agenda Item 6

Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 10 March 2020	Meeting Name: Audit, Governance and Standards (Civic Awards) Sub-Committee
Report title:		Southwark Civic Awards 2020	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Housing and Modernisation	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the sub-committee considers the short-listed nominations for civic awards outlined in the closed report and grant awards as appropriate (see paragraph 6).
2. That the sub-committee considers the nomination from the Mayor (if any, outlined in the closed report) for a discretionary award and grant the award as appropriate.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The Southwark Civic Awards scheme was initiated in 1997 for the purposes of recognising exceptional contributions to community life by individuals and organisations in the borough. Up until 2015, the scheme was administered on behalf of the council by the Southwark Civic Association which made recommendations to Standards Committee for the granting of civic awards.
4. Council assembly on 8 July 2015 resolved that from the 2015-16 civic year, the administration of the civic awards be carried out by the council pending a longer term review of the operation of the awards scheme. In November 2009, council assembly agreed the introduction of a discretionary Mayor's award. The eligibility criteria for this award is outlined in Appendix A.
5. The 2020 awards were open for nominations for eight weeks. Nominations received are reviewed by officers to ensure nominations meet the awards criteria.
6. Following the short-listing, details of all nominees, including a single nomination for the Mayor's Discretionary Award, if any, will be presented to the Audit, Governance and Standards (Civic Awards) Sub-Committee in a closed report, for consideration by the sub-committee at this meeting.
7. This year's awards ceremony will take place at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 16 May 2020. The ceremony will be combined with Mayor Making in a joint civic ceremony that will be followed by a reception.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

8. The granting of awards is a constitutional function of audit, governance and standards (civic awards) sub-committee and members have the final discretion whether or not to grant an award. Members also have a particular responsibility to safeguard the non-political nature of the awards scheme.

9. Members need to be satisfied that the nominations meet the published set of eligibility, expectations, and exclusions before granting awards. These are outlined in Appendix A.
10. Financial and legal checks are undertaken on nominees regarding outstanding debt to the council. Council records are checked to ascertain whether there is any reason not to grant an award (e.g. arrears owed to the council for which no arrangements have been made to repay, or where the council is taking legal action against the nominee). Standards (civic awards) sub-committee is asked to grant awards in principle, subject only then to these checks being undertaken and to delegate authority to the strategic director for housing and modernisation. Such delegation would only allow for an award not to be made on the grounds set out above.

Resource implications

11. Combining Southwark Civic Awards, and Mayor Making in one location and on one date means that all can be managed within existing staff and financial resources.

Community impact statement

12. The council is committed to promoting civic engagement and good relations in our communities. Application forms are distributed widely throughout the borough and any person is able to submit a nomination online at any time during the call for nominations. The awards attract media interest and recognise the voluntary work of a number of people and organisations within Southwark, thus strengthening community cohesion.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 2nd floor, 160 Tooley Street London, SE1 2QH	Gerald Gohler 020 7525 7420

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix A	Southwark Civic Awards – Rationale, Categories, Criteria and Eligibility

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Stephen Douglass, Director of Communities	
Report Author	Jacqueline Brazil, Mayor's PA/Civic Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	27 February 2020	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Law and Democracy	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		27 February 2020

APPENDIX A

SOUTHWARK CIVIC AWARDS 2019

RATIONALE, CATEGORIES, CRITERIA, ELIGIBILITY

Since 1997 the Southwark Civic Awards scheme has honoured hundreds of individuals and organisations across the borough. Apart from the rarely conferred Honorary Freedom of Southwark, the awards are the most prestigious the council can make and in 2016 they become even more exceptional still with the conferring of a small number of awards in these categories:

The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey (Category 1)

The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell (Category 2)

The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Southwark (Category 3)

The Young Citizen of the Year Award (Category 4)

The Mayor's Discretionary Award (Category 5)

What are we looking for?

With this awards scheme the key words are 'active citizenship' and 'exceptional achievement'. We are in search of people, projects, organisations and businesses worthy of being singled out and publicly recognised for their generous use of time, ideas, energy and resources for the betterment of others.

We are also looking for shining examples of civic mindedness, personal courage, or service to family or community that is above and beyond the ordinary. We want the recipients of these awards to know that the difference they have made to the lives of others, or indeed the life of the borough, is recognised at the highest level.

Examples may include, but are not restricted to:

- Outstanding personal service to the young or the elderly.
- A community organisation or person that has improved the lives of many.
- A project or event that has helped to build bridges between cultures and communities.
- An act of personal courage or generosity.
- Innovation in business or the improvement of the local economy.
- Enhancement of the borough's culture, heritage and reputation.

The Liberty Awards

The Southwark Civic Awards celebrate our roots as 'London's most historic borough' by conferring the liberties of the three metropolitan boroughs from which The London Borough of Southwark was formed in 1965 – Bermondsey, Camberwell, and Southwark.

We also want to recognise exceptional contributions to civic, community or family life by individuals, businesses, projects or organisations in the geographical areas they once covered. Those nominated for one of these awards may have given a lifetime or many years of service, or made an exceptional contribution to civic and community life in the previous year (2019).

The Old Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey incorporates: London Bridge and West Bermondsey, North Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, South Bermondsey, and Surrey Docks wards.

The Old Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell incorporates: Camberwell Green, Champion Hill, Dulwich Hill, Dulwich Village, Dulwich Wood, Goose Green, Nunhead & Queen's Road, Old Kent Road, Peckham, Peckham Rye, Rye Lane, and St Giles wards.

The Old Metropolitan Borough of Southwark incorporates: Borough and Bankside, Chaucer, Faraday, Newington, North Walworth, and St George's wards.

The Young Citizen of the Year Award

This award will recognise the exceptional community spirit, generosity or civic mindedness of a youth or young adult under the age of 25 in any part of the borough. As with the 'liberties', you may nominate a young citizen who has contributed several years of service to community or family life, or has made an outstanding contribution in the previous year alone (2019). The recipient of this award must be a Southwark resident.

The Mayor's Discretionary Award

This discretionary award will allow Southwark's current First Citizen, Councillor Sandra Rhule, to exercise her personal judgement as to which individual, business, project or organisation in any part of the borough has made the most outstanding contribution to community life.

This person, business, project or organisation may be one of those already honoured with a Liberty or Young Citizen of the Year Award, or it may be another worthy of being singled out for a lifetime or a year of outstanding achievement.

Eligibility and exclusions

The council welcomes nominations for any individual whose unpaid voluntary activity is unrelated to, or is additional to, the nominee's current employment. We also welcome nominations for any community group, organisation or business which is based in and/or benefits the Southwark community.

Serving elected members of Southwark Council may not be nominated but they may freely nominate others. Employees of Southwark Council are also excluded from being nominated, unless it is for unpaid voluntary activity which is unrelated to or is additional to their current employment. Council employees may also nominate individuals, projects or organisations.

As the Southwark Civic Awards scheme for 2020 does not supersede any earlier scheme, previous recipients of equal or greater awards in the scheme may not be nominated. Those who received a Letter of Commendation in the past may however be nominated.

Recipients of awards in other council-operated or supported award schemes such as Housing Heroes 2019 or Southwark Stars 2019 may be nominated for the Southwark Civic Awards.

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**AUDIT, GOVERNANCE & STANDARDS (CIVIC AWARDS) SUB-COMMITTEE DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2019-20**

NOTE: Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to
Gerald Gohler Email: gerald.gohler@southwark.gov.uk Tel: 020 7525 7420

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
Members of Sub-Committee		Officers	
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE (Chair)	1	Doreen Forrester-Brown	1
Councillor Humaira Ali	1	Norman Coombe	1
Councillor Tom Flynn	1	Jacqui Brazil	1
Councillor Andy Simmons	1	Stephen Douglass	1
		Gerald Gohler	4
Co-opted members (address labels supplied)			
Matthew Allgood	1		
Sarah Gibb	1		
Ken Hayes	1		
Pauline Nandoo	1		
		Total: 16	
		Dated: 2 March 2020	