

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

Tuesday 7 March 2023

6.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G01A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor Barrie Hargrove (Chair)
Councillor Sarah King
Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Andy Simmons
Matthew Allgood
Azmarea Muhamad Azlan
Sarah Gibbs
Ken Hayes

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 on 020 7525 7420 or email: gerald.gohler@southwark.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Althea Loderick

Chief Executive

Date: 27 February 2023



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

Tuesday 7 March 2023

6.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G01A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Order of Business

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2.	CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS	
3.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT	
4.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
5.	MINUTES	1 - 3
	To approve as a correct record the minutes of the open section of the meeting held on 21 March 2022.	
6.	CIVIC AWARDS 2023	4 - 9
	To consider the short-listed nominations for the Civic Awards and the nomination from the Mayor outlined in the closed report and grant awards 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.”

7. CLOSED MINUTES

In the closed agenda pack.

8. CIVIC AWARDS 2023: NOMINATIONS

In the closed agenda pack.

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Date: 27 February 2023



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 21 March 2022 at 6.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G01A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE (Chair)
Councillor Tom Flynn
Pauline Nandoo
Ken Hayes
Elizabeth Smith

OFFICER Jacqueline Brazil (Mayor's PA/Civic Officer)
SUPPORT: Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. APOLOGIES

There were apologies from Councillors Graham Neale and Andy Simmons, as well as from Katy Woolley and Stephen Douglass, Director of Communities.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

Those members listed as present above indicated that they were voting members.

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

The chair announced that the closed report containing the nominations for the civic awards 2022, and an open and a closed supplemental agenda, containing the open and closed minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 2021, had been circulated.

4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

The following members declared an interest in:

8. Civic awards 2022: Nominations

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE, non-pecuniary, as one of the nominees was known to her from her time as a cabinet member.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the open minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 2021 be agreed with the following amendments:

1. Councillor Tom Flynn to be marked as having given his apologies.
2. Stephen Douglass, Director of Communities, to be marked as having given his apologies.
3. Nicholas Okwulu to be taken off the list of those present.
4. Virginia Wynn-Jones and Jacqueline Brazil to be added as officer support.

6. **CIVIC AWARDS 2022**

Members of the sub-committee noted the open report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the public be excluded from the meeting to consider the nominations for the civic awards 2022 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.
2. That the co-opted members be allowed to remain in the closed session.

7. **CLOSED MINUTES**

The minutes for this item are contained in the closed minutes.

8. **CIVIC AWARDS 2022: NOMINATIONS**

The minutes for this item are contained in the closed minutes.

The meeting ended at 6.50 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 7 March 2023	Meeting Name: Audit, Governance and Standards (Civic Awards) Sub-Committee
Report title:		Southwark Civic Awards 2023	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the sub-committee considers the short-listed nominations for the Civic Awards outlined in the closed report and grant awards as appropriate (see paragraph 6).
2. That the sub-committee notes 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 2023 awards were open for nominations for 10 weeks. Nominations received are reviewed by officers to ensure nominations meet the award criteria as specified in Appendix A.
6. Following the short-listing process to ensure nominations fit the criteria, details of all eligible 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, to follow, for consideration by the sub-committee at this meeting.
7. This year's awards ceremony is scheduled to take place at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 20 May 2023 at 11am. The ceremony may be

combined with the presentation of the Freedom of the Borough titles in a joint civic ceremony that will be followed by a short 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 assistant chief executive – governance and assurance. Such delegation would only allow for an award not to be made on the grounds set out above.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

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

Climate change implications

12. Combining Southwark Civic Awards, and Presentation of Freedoms Ceremony in one location and on one date will save resources and so lessen the environmental and climate change impact.

Resource implications

13. Combining Southwark Civic Awards, and Presentation of Freedoms Ceremony in one location and on one date means that all can be managed within existing staff incurring minimal additional financial resources.

Legal implications

14. The awards process is not considered to have any legal implications.

Financial implications

15. All cost will be met from existing budgets.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 2nd floor, 160 Tooley Street London, SE1 2QH	Virginia Wynn-Jones 020 7525 7055

APPENDICES

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

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services	
Report Author	Jacqueline Brazil, Mayor's PA/Civic Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	23 February 2023	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	23 February 2023	

APPENDIX A

SOUTHWARK CIVIC AWARDS 2023

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 became 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 Southwark Together Award (Category 5, added in 2021)

The Mayor's Discretionary Award (Category 6)

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 (2021).

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 (2021). The recipient of this award must be a Southwark resident.

The Southwark Together Award

This new Civic Award has been introduced to celebrate those who work over and above the call of duty to promote equality, diversity and inclusion, enable good community relations, tolerance and understanding. This award will recognise an individual, community group or organisation that has made an outstanding contribution to enabling Southwark to be a more integrated, tolerant, welcoming, safe and inclusive borough, which values its rich diversity. Building on the work of Southwark Stands Together, the award celebrates great practice to promote equality, inclusion and good community relations.

Nominations can be made for individuals’ voluntary activity or community group, organisation or business which is based in and/or benefits the Southwark community.

The Mayor’s Discretionary Award

This discretionary award will allow Southwark’s current First Citizen, Councillor Barrie Hargrove, to exercise his 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

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 2023 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 or Southwark Stars may be nominated for the Southwark Civic Awards.

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**AUDIT, GOVERNANCE & STANDARDS (CIVIC AWARDS) SUB-COMMITTEE DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23**

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

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
Members of Sub-Committee		Officers	
Councillor Barrie Hargrove (Chair)	1	Doreen Forrester-Brown	1
Councillor Sarah King	1	Sarah Feasey	1
Councillor Graham Neale	1	Alan Wells	1
Councillor Andy Simmons	1	Jacqui Brazil	1
		Gerald Gohler	2
Co-opted members			
Matthew Allgood	By email		
Azmareah Muhamad Azlan	By email		
Sarah Gibbs	By email		
Ken Hayes	By email		
		Total: 10	
		Dated: 17 February 2023	