

Freedom of the Borough – Royal Military Academy

Portfolio	Leader
Ward(s) Affected: n/a	

Purpose

To consider conferring the Freedom of the Borough on all ranks of the Royal Military Academy.

Introduction

1. The Royal Military Academy was first established in 1720, gaining ‘Royal’ status in 1841 and moving to its current site in 1947. Since then, the Academy has had a major impact on the life, growth and development of the Borough, recently cementing the already strong links to Surrey Heath with initiatives resulting from joint work under the auspices of the Surrey Heath Community Covenant Group.
2. Given the longstanding links between the Borough and the Royal Military Academy and in recognition of the one hundredth anniversary of the First World War, it is proposed to mark and celebrate its rich and significant contribution to the Borough and its community, by conferring the Honorary Freedom of the Borough on all ranks of the Royal Military Academy.

Freedom of the Borough

3. The right to confer Freedom of the Borough was first established through the Honorary Freedom of the Boroughs Act 1885, subsequently incorporated into other legislation. The current authority lies with the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Proposal

4. It is proposed that the Council exercises its powers under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to confer the Honorary Freedom of the Borough on all ranks of the Royal Military Academy and to invite the Academy to march through the streets of the Borough on 14 June 2014, with the full privileges conferred thereon.

Resource Implications

5. Any implications will be met from within existing resources.

Recommendation

6. The Council is advised to resolve that:
 - (i) In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council of the Borough of Surrey Heath, being sensible of the heritage of distinguished service and achievement of the Royal Military Academy and being desirous of recognising, confirming and continuing the ties of friendly association which have long existed between the Borough and the Academy, DO HEREBY CONFER upon All Ranks of the Royal Military Academy, for the time being, the HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH OF SURREY HEATH and thereby

