



Wednesday, 5 July 2023

TO EACH MEMBER OF GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **CITY OF GLOUCESTER** to be held at the Civic Suite, North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP on **Thursday, 13th July 2023** at **6.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive from Members, declarations of the existence of any disclosable pecuniary, or non-pecuniary, interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item. Please see Agenda Notes.

ISSUES FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

3. **ADMISSION OF HONORARY FREEMAN (Pages 5 - 8)**

To consider the report of the Leader of the Council which recommends that Mr Stephen Marston, be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the City of Gloucester.

Yours sincerely

Jon McGinty
Managing Director

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The duties to register, disclose and not to participate in respect of any matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 as follows –

<u>Interest</u>	<u>Prescribed description</u>
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within the previous 12 months (up to and including the date of notification of the interest) in respect of any expenses incurred by you carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (or a body in which you or they have a beneficial interest) and the Council (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the Council's area. For this purpose "land" includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you, your spouse, civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the Council's area for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) – (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you, your spouse or civil partner or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where – (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the Council's area and (b) either – i. The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share

- capital of that body; or
- ii. If the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

For this purpose, “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

NOTE: the requirements in respect of the registration and disclosure of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and withdrawing from participating in respect of any matter where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest apply to your interests and those of your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner where you are aware of their interest.

Access to Information

Agendas and reports can be viewed on the Gloucester City Council website: www.gloucester.gov.uk and are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

For enquiries about Gloucester City Council’s meetings please contact Democratic Services, 01452 396126, democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk.

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Recording of meetings

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Any recording must take place in such a way as to ensure that the view of Councillors, Officers, the Public and Press is not obstructed. The use of flash photography and/or additional lighting will not be allowed unless this has been discussed and agreed in advance of the meeting.

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions:

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building; gather at the assembly point in the car park and await further instructions;
- Do not re-enter the building until told by a member of staff or the fire brigade that it is safe to do so.

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Gloucester City Council

Meeting:	Special Council	Date:	13 July 2023
Subject:	Admission of Honorary Freeman		
Report Of:	Leader of the Council		
Wards Affected:	All		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
Contact Officer:	Jon McGinty		
	Email: jon.mcginty@gloucester.gov.uk	Tel: 396200	
Appendices:	None		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report asks Council to confer the honour and title of Honorary Freeman of the City of Gloucester upon Mr Stephen Marston in recognition of his significant contribution and eminent services to the City.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Council is asked to **RESOLVE** that, pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, Mr Stephen Marston be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the City of Gloucester.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 Stephen Marston has been Vice-Chancellor of the University of Gloucestershire since 2011. Before joining the University, he worked in a range of civil service roles, including as Director General for Universities and Skills in the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills.
- 3.2 Since becoming Vice-Chancellor, Stephen has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the benefit of the City of Gloucester. The Oxstalls Campus has grown significantly under his leadership and tenure, and the contribution of student life to the vibrancy of the City has consequently matched this. During this time, the University has delivered a fantastic new quality Sports Arena for the benefit of the City and students alike, a new Performing Arts Hub, a new Business School and, within this, a class-leading Growth Hub to benefit SMEs and larger businesses across the City.
- 3.3 Within the City Centre, Stephen led the development of new student accommodation at Blackfriars and, of course, led the University to its most major and significant development project, the purchase of the former Debenhams building to create a City Centre campus right in the heart of the City's Kings Quarter. When complete, and alongside the projects that the Council is delivering in

the same area, I believe this will fundamentally transform the City's prosperity and future for the better.

- 3.4 Notwithstanding these contributions, Stephen has made many further voluntary contributions to the cultural life of the City, most notably as a Non-Executive Director of the Gloucester Culture Trust.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

- 4.1 None

5.0 Environmental Considerations

- 5.1 None.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 None

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 7.1 The award of Honorary Freeman is considered the most appropriate way to recognise the exemplary service demonstrated by Mr Marston.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

- 8.1 To conclude, the Council warmly thanks Mr Marston for his exemplary service to Gloucester and is delighted to award him the title of Honorary Freeman.

9.0 Financial Implications

- 9.1 There are no direct financial implications.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

10.0 Legal Implications

- 10.1 Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to admit persons of distinction or persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the City to be honorary freemen. The award of the title of Honorary Freeman requires a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

- 11.1 None

12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA) and Safeguarding:

- 12.1 A PIA is not required.

13.0 Other Corporate Implications

Community Safety

13.1 None

Sustainability

13.2 None

Staffing & Trade Union

13.3 None

Background Documents: None

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