



REGULATORY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

20 JANUARY 2022

REPORT TITLE:	WIRRAL AWARD 2021
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to request agreement from the Committee that the Wirral Award be conferred on the nominees as recommended by the Wirral Award Working Party.

The Wirral Award is intended to confer civic recognition upon individuals or organisations resident or located in Wirral, for an outstanding achievement (within the previous 12 months) or distinguished service to the Borough (over a period of 20 years or more, unless there are exceptional circumstances).

As a general rule the Council would prefer to consider individuals rather than organisations unless the circumstances are exceptional.

All nominations are considered annually by a working party of senior Councillors, and the Working Party's recommendations with regard to possible recipients of the Wirral Award are submitted to the Regulatory and General Purposes Committee for approval.

A formal Award certificate will then be awarded to the successful nominees at a special ceremony to be held at a suitable venue or if this is not possible due to the current pandemic certificates and a gift will be distributed to the successful nominees.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

This is not a key decision.

The appendix attached to the report is exempt under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information. Consideration has been given to the Public Interest Test.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Regulatory and General Purposes Committee be recommended to:

- (1)** agree to confer the Wirral Award upon the four nominees recommended by the Wirral Award Working Party; and

(2) make appropriate arrangements for the recipients of the Award to be invited to a special ceremony or should this not be possible due to the pandemic, that they be presented with a certificate and gift as set out in paragraph 3.0 of this report.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The Wirral Award is intended to confer civic recognition upon individuals or organisations resident or located in Wirral for an outstanding achievement within the previous twelve months, or for distinguished service to the Borough over a period of twenty years or more.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Another option would be not to confer the Wirral Award upon the nominations received.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 Nominations sought

Four nominations were received and considered by the Wirral Award Working Party.

3.2 Wirral Award Working Party

The Wirral Award Working Party, comprising the representatives of the political groups by way of the Chair and spokespersons of the Regulatory and General Purposes Committee, met on 15 December 2021 to consider the nominations submitted. Their recommendations are attached as an exempt appendix to this report for consideration.

3.3 Presentation Ceremony

Once nominations are agreed, a presentation ceremony will usually be arranged to be attended by:

- (i) The Mayor of Wirral
- (ii) Leader of the Council
- (iii) Group Leaders
- (iv) Chair of the Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee
- (v) Chief Executive
- (vi) Nominees and one guest each

Should this not be possible due to the current pandemic, certificates and a gift will be distributed to the successful nominees.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 As in previous years, the costs associated with the Wirral Award would be accommodated within the existing approved Mayoral budget.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising directly out of this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 It is customary for the Council to cover the cost of any hospitality that may be provided for the Wirral Award. There is no specific budget head for this but the funding required can be allocated from the Civic Services catering budget. Consideration will be given to the current Covid-19 pandemic.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 There are none arising directly from this report, other than those referred to in paragraph 6.1 above, namely those directly arising from any hospitality arrangements that may be considered during the current Covid-19 pandemic.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Nominations are sought and accepted from all areas of the local community.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The recommendations contained within this report are expected to have no impact on emissions of Greenhouse Gases.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are none arising directly from the content of this report.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Nomination forms for consideration (Exempt)

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Wirral Award application form.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee – Wirral Award 2018	23 January 2019
Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee – Wirral Award 2019	22 January 2020
Regulatory and General Purposes Committee – Wirral Award 2020	19 January 2021