

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WIRRAL

LICENSING, HEALTH & SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

8 NOVEMBER 2010

HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH – MR STEPHEN MADDOX OBE

REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend that Mr Stephen Maddox be awarded the honour of Freedom of Borough.

2 BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

- 2.1 Steve Maddox was born in Bootle and educated at Merchant Taylor School , Crosby. He joined the council as a trainee solicitor in 1974, and progressed through the council hierarchy to achieve the position of Chief Executive.
- 2.2 Steve Maddox OBE served Wirral Council for over thirty six years, twelve as Chief Executive. He joined Wirral Council in December 1974 as a Trainee Solicitor, qualified as a solicitor in 1977 and became the Council's Deputy Borough Solicitor and Secretary in 1991. Steve was appointed Chief Executive of Wirral Council in March 1998.

Steve was Clerk to Merseyside Passenger Transport Authority; a Board Member of Greater Merseyside Connexions Partnership; a Governor of Wirral Metropolitan College; and a Governor of Black Horse Hill Junior School. He has a longstanding interest in Public Health and co-chaired the Merseyside Health Action Zone and the Cheshire and Merseyside Public Health Network.

Steve has dedicated his working life to public service. His commitment to this Council and the positive impact he has made upon communities right across Wirral is a lasting legacy. His membership of the North West and Merseyside Resilience Forums in particular has resulted in the region being better prepared to respond to any emergency. He has also given tirelessly to the wider Public Health agenda and was far-sighted in championing the case for the public sector working more closely together, regardless of administrative boundaries. He has been active and effective in helping large numbers of Wirral's communities and charitable organisations and his work in this area has benefited many people across the Borough.

Steve's outstanding contribution to public service was rightly recognised when he was awarded an OBE for Services to Local Government in the New Year Honours List in 2007.

2.3 To confer the honour of Honorary Freeman of the Borough is a significant step for the Local Authority. Very few Wirral people have been awarded this status and, quite rightly, should only be awarded to someone who has made an exceptional contribution to the Borough. Throughout his long and distinguished career in local government Steve Maddox has shown the qualities for which the honour is designed and I have no hesitation whatsoever in making a recommendation to you that he be awarded the Honorary Freeman of the Borough.

3 FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

There are no staffing implications arising out of this report; there may be some modest financial implications which can be accommodated from within existing budgets.

4 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

There are none arising directly from this report.

5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are none arising directly from this report.

6 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

There are none arising directly from this report.

7 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

There are none arising directly from this report.

8 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

There are none arising directly from this report.

9 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

This affects the entire Borough.

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

11 RECOMMENDATION

That this Committee recommend to the Council that Mr Stephen Maddox OBE be awarded the honour of the Freedom of the Borough of Wirral.

JIM WILKIE

INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE