

# **PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**

**19 JUNE 2019**

## **PROPOSAL TO GRANT THE FREEDOM OF PERTH TO BRIGADIER SIR MELVILLE JAMESON KCVO CBE, LORD-LIEUTENANT OF PERTH AND KINROSS**

**Report by Chief Executive and  
Depute Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer (Report No. 19/192)**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report relates to a proposal to grant the Freedom of the City of Perth to Brigadier Sir Melville Jameson KCVO CBE on his retirement as Lord-Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross.

### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 A Lord-Lieutenant is the British monarch's personal representative in each county of the United Kingdom. Historically, each Lieutenant was responsible for organising the county's militia however the Lord-Lieutenant is now an honorary titular position usually awarded to a notable person in the county.
- 1.2 The current Lord-Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross, Brigadier Sir Melville Jameson KCVO CBE, is due to retire from this position as Lord-Lieutenant on 17 July 2019 after nearly 14 years service in this position.

### **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 During his tenure, the Lord-Lieutenant has fully embraced the role of ambassador for Perth and Kinross to promote Perth and Kinross at every opportunity - its tourism, its products, its businesses and its charities, and more. Some of his many highlights including his role in securing high profile royal visits to the area are detailed below.
- 2.2 Section 206 of the Local Government Scotland Act 1973 gives the Council power to grant individuals, who have made a special contribution to their area, Freedom of the City.
- 2.3 206 (1) states:

*A local authority may by resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting therein at a meeting of the authority, the notice of which specifies the proposed admission as an item of business admit to be Honorary Freemen of their area persons of distinction and any persons who have rendered eminent service to their area*

- 2.4 Given his remarkable contribution and unwaivering support to the promotion and betterment of the Perth & Kinross area, it is considered appropriate to acknowledge this in an official way. It is proposed to request the Council to consider exercising its power under Section 206 of the Local Government (S) Act 1973 to grant the current Lord Lieutenant the Freedom of the City of Perth.

### **3. CONTEXT**

- 3.1 The Lord-Lieutenant has worked tirelessly raising the profile of Perth & Kinross. He has been instrumental in attracting a number of high profile events and securing royal visits to the area. The economic impact that can result from a Royal visit, major civic event or presentation of awards and medals should not be under-estimated.
- 3.2 His professional reputation, connections with people all around the world, and his passion and enthusiasm to promote the area have provided the perfect platform for him to carry out his role as Lord-Lieutenant.
- 3.3 As a champion of The Armed Forces and youth/military/cadet organisations he has forged close links with a number of voluntary groups and regimental, arts and heritage groups.
- 3.4 The Lord-Lieutenant was instrumental in developing and supporting the introduction of the City of Perth Salute. The now annual event has featured top international Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo performers, which have attracted large audiences and generated significant income for city centre businesses.
- 3.5 He was a key supporter who championed Perth's city status bid and application process at the highest levels. His and many others efforts were rewarded when Perth was granted city status to mark HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012.
- 3.6 His influence helped secure a number of high profile Royal visits to the area including:-
- Prince Charles and Prince Edward's attendance at the Perth 800 Celebrations on 1 & 2 June 2010.
  - the Queen and Prince Philip's visit to Perth on 6 July 2012 in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year.
  - the visit by Earl and Countess of Strathearn to Strathearn on 29 May 2014.
  - Prince Charles' visit to Balhousie Castle and Glendelvine squirrel sanctuary on 22 July 2014.
- 3.7 He assisted with the establishment the first International Youth Band Festival in 2018. The 4 day festival was the first of its kind to be held in Scotland, and featured 300 young musicians from China & Hong Kong.

- 3.8 He also played a key role in bringing the City of Perth classic car parade to Perth in 2018, which was attended by Prince Michael of Kent. This was a very special event for the City and brought many visitors to the area.
- 3.9 Throughout his tenure he has advocated consistently for the reinstatement of the Lord Provostship title.
- 3.10 He has been and continue to be a strong supporter of the Council's bid to bring the Stone of Destiny to Perth.

#### **4. HISTORY OF FREEDOM CEREMONIES IN PERTH**

- 4.1 The last Freedom ceremony took place in July 2012 to mark the historic occasion of the visit to Perth in July 2012 by Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh in The Queen's Diamond Jubilee year.
- 4.2 The following table details the list of Burgesses and Freemen of the City of Perth since 1933.

29 September 1933	John Buchan, CH LLD MP (later Lord Tweedsmuir) of Elsfield Manor, Oxford
29 September 1933	Francis Norie-Miller JP FEIS of Cleeve, Perth
10 August 1935	Albert Frederick Arthur George, Duke of York, Earl of Inverness and Baron Killarney, KG PC KT GCMG GCVO
10 August 1935	Elizabeth Angela Marguerite, Duchess of York GBE
18 March 1938	Sir William MacKenzie, Lord Amulree FC GBE KC LLD
18 March 1938	Arthur Kinmond Bell of Kincarrathie, Perth
19 July 1947	The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) (Freedom of entry into the City and Royal Burgh of Perth on ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating and colours flying)

19 July 1947	Field Marshall the Right Honourable Earl Wavell PC GCB GCSI GCIE CMG MC
27 May 1948	Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, OM CH FRS MP
12 May 1956	Anthony Eden KG MC MP (later Lord Astor)
14 September 1961	Stanley Norie-Miller, Baronet MC DL JP of Murrayshall, Perth
24 July 1970	William Gordon Farquharson MC LLD CA of Tay Park, Isla Road, Perth
26 August 1978	Sir Neil Cameron KCB CBE DSO DFC
30 October 1982	David K Thomson CBE TD OStJ JP DL
8 May 2004	The Royal British Legion Scotland
8 May 2010	51st Highland, 7th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland (7 Scots) (Freedom of entry into the City and Royal Burgh of Perth on ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating and colours flying)
6 July 2012	HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh

## 5 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Council agree to grant the Freedom of the City of Perth to Brigadier Sir Melville Jameson KCVO CBE in recognition of his service to the Perth and Kinross area.
- 5.2 On Sunday 18 August 2019, the Council is staging the City of Perth Salute event. The event involves international artistes joining with local bands in a parade from the South Inch to the North Inch, along Tay Street, culminating in an arena performance. The parade will also include local pipe bands, dancers, youth groups, etc which brings a colourful and joyful display to the event.
- 5.3 It is envisaged that the Freedom of the City of Perth ceremony would take place at the end of City of Perth Salute event to take advantage of the assembled crowds and provide a spectacular background to this historic event.

5.4 It is anticipated that the Society of High Constables of the City of Perth would play a ceremonial role in this event.

5.5 Following the ceremony the Provost will host a civic reception for the Lord-Lieutenant and invited guests in the Council offices, 2 High Street, Perth.

## **6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 Given his remarkable contribution and unwaivering support to the promotion and betterment of the Perth & Kinross area, it is considered appropriate to acknowledge this by granting the Lord-Lieutenant the Freedom of the City of Perth in recognition of his service.

6.2 It is recommended that the Council agrees:

- (i) to exercise its power under Section 206 of the Local Government (S) Act 1973 to grant the Freedom of the City of Perth to Brigadier Sir Melville Jameson KCVO CBE on his retirement as Lord-Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross.
- (ii) that the Freedom of the City of Perth ceremony takes place at the close of the City of Perth Salute on Sunday 18 August 2019.
- (iii) to delegate authority to the Depute Chief Executive in consultation with the Provost, to finalise the arrangements for the event.

### **Author(s)**

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### **Approved**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date</b>
Jim Valentine	Depute Chief Executive (Chief Operating Officer)	14 May 2019

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	<b>Yes / None</b>
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	None
Corporate Plan	None
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	N/A
Strategic Environmental Assessment	N/A
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	N/A
Legal and Governance	N/A
Risk	N/A
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	Yes
External	No
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	No

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy

#### Corporate Plan

- 1.2 Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2018-2022 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy.

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

- 2.1 The costs associated with the Civic event are anticipated to be:

	£
Equipment – additional grandstand	1,200.00
Photographer	180.00
Regalia (scroll and casket)	930.00
Invitations and postage	132.00
Civic Reception	1,020.00
<b>Total estimated costs</b>	<b>£ 3,462.00</b>

- 2.2 The estimated costs associated with the Freedom of Perth ceremony has been reduced to reflect that the infrastructure is already in place for the Perth Salute and as such can be met from the 2019/20 Civic Hospitality budget.
- 2.3 The Head of Finance has been consulted on the financial implications for the proposals and has indicated his agreement.

#### Workforce

- 2.4 There are no direct workforce implications arising from this report.

#### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.5 There are no asset management issues arising from this report.

### **3. Assessments**

#### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Not applicable.

#### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.2 Not applicable.

#### Sustainability

- 3.3 Not applicable.

#### Legal and Governance

- 3.4 The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted on the proposals detailed in this report.

#### Risk

- 3.5 Risks and the controls required to mitigate any risks will be reported through the Council's risk management process.

### **4. Consultation**

#### Internal

- 4.1 The Provost and the Chief Executive have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

## External

- 4.2 Consultation will take place with external organisations should the report be agreed.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 Following approval, the Freedom of the City of Perth ceremony will be advertised as part of the Perth Salute.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

## **3. APPENDICES**

None.