



PRESCOT

TOWN COUNCIL

**Honorary Freeman/Freewoman of
the Town Policy**

Date approved: September 2021

Introduction

By virtue of section 249(5) and (6) of the 1972 Local Government Act, as amended by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the Town Council is able to award a Title of Dignity to a person in recognition of significant contributions being made to the local community.

Prescot Town Council may award an “Honorary Freeman of the Town” or “Honorary Freewoman of the Town”. The award of such a title should not be taken lightly. Rather more that it should be used sparingly to preserve the integrity of the honour and used to recognise the services of an individual at the end of such services.

There is no limit to the number of nominations or holders of the title, but the nature of the nomination criteria means that it is unlikely the honour will be bestowed frequently. It is intended that the award will confer distinction for eminent service.

Nomination Criteria

The nominee must meet the following criteria:

1. The nominee has served the Town of Prescot for a significant period of time, not less than 20 years having made an outstanding contribution or rendered eminent service to the Town.
2. The nominee will have given extensive and distinguished service to the community of Prescot in a largely voluntary capacity over and above their paid occupation.

Or

3. If the above criteria are not met that consideration is given to any extenuating circumstances.

Nomination Procedure

1. All nominations must be submitted by completing the nomination form and returning to the Town Clerk.
2. Submissions written by the nominated person will not be considered.
3. When a nomination has been received it will be considered by the Town Council.
4. The motion must be approved by no less than two-thirds of the Members at the meeting.
5. Following the resolution that an award is to be made the title of “Honorary Freeman or Freewoman of the Town” will be granted by the Town Mayor and the title holder presented with a certificate citing the grounds for the award along with a medal.
6. The honour shall be awarded for the individual’s lifetime and not as a hereditary award.

Confidentiality

All nominations of Honorary Freeman or Freewoman of the Town are to be treated in the strictest confidence. The nominee should not be informed that they have been nominated and submissions should only be discussed with the person who has nominated them and the Town Council.