

**To receive a report from the Freedom of Saltash Panel
and consider any actions.**

The Freedom of Saltash Award

The policy was agreed in February 2022, but has never been put into action. Like many plans or policies, this does not entirely work as originally planned, and subject to how it is implemented this time, the policy should be modified at a future P & F to ensure the policy is updated. The Town Clerk has advised that taking a pragmatic approach with the agreement of Full Council is a sensible way forward.

The following is the Introduction in the policy

The Honorary Freedom of the Town of Saltash is an award made at the discretion of the Town Council. This is the highest honour that the Town Council can bestow and will be awarded only on rare and exceptional occasions and in accordance with legislation.

The proposed way forward for this year.

The Freedom Award Panel has met and carefully considered the nominations received this year in line with the policy. The panel do consider that at least one of those nominated should be considered by Full Council at an Extraordinary Full Council meeting.

Subject to Full Council agreement, the meeting will take place on the 21st March 2024, where details of the nominations determined suitable by the panel will be considered. A report outlining the reasons and names of those nominated will be released in a 'Private and Confidential' document. This will allow Full Council, in a confidential session to have enough information to make a decision on awarding the Freedom of Saltash. This could mean that some nominations may not be brought forward to the Full Council meeting and those details would not be released to maintain full confidentiality.

Once Full Council have met on the 21st March, the process would revert back to the policy.

**End of Report
Councillor Richard Bickford**