

Full Council

Date:	18 June 2019
Title:	Civic Regalia
Contact Officer:	Graham Hunt, Town Clerk

Purpose of Report

1. To provide background for a decision on a minor change to the Civic Regalia – to swap the chain and ribbon on the Mayor’s Consort Badge of Office and the Deputy Mayor’s Badge of Office.

Background

2. The Mayor’s Consort Badge of Office is worn via a chain, while the Deputy Mayor’s Badge of Office is worn via a ribbon.
3. This has in the past generated confusion and concern, in that the Mayor’s Consort is sometimes thought to be the Deputy Mayor and the importance of the Office of Deputy Mayor is not emphasised, particularly when the Deputy Mayor is substituting for the Mayor. The Deputy Mayor is also sometimes mistaken for a consort.
4. It is therefore proposed that the chain and ribbon are swapped.
5. The Town Mayor and previous Deputy Mayor have sought permissions from donors or their descendant families as far as has been possible.

Resource Appraisal

6. The cutting and soldering swap should be executed professionally, and a quote for £50 has been established from a local jeweller. This would come from the Civic Regalia budget.

Risk Assessment

7. There are no risks except potential future confusion when further changes are suggested. It is not clear when the current chain was attached to the Mayor’s Consort Badge of Office (which itself was originally the Mayoress’s Badge, originally with its own blue ribbon).

Legal Powers: Local Government Act 1972 s111

Recommendation:

That the current chain and ribbon on the Mayor’s Consort Badge of Office and the Deputy Mayor’s Badge of Office be swapped.