



# Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009

## 2009 CHAPTER 20

### PART 1

#### DEMOCRACY AND INVOLVEMENT

### CHAPTER 5

#### LOCAL FREEDOMS AND HONORARY TITLES

#### 29 Honorary titles

- (1) Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70) (honorary aldermen and freemen) is amended as follows.
- (2) In the heading, for “Honorary aldermen and freemen” substitute “Honorary titles”.
- (3) In subsection (1) (power of principal councils to confer title of honorary aldermen), after “honorary aldermen” insert “or honorary alderwomen”.
- (4) In subsection (2)—
  - (a) after “honorary alderman” insert “or honorary alderwoman”;
  - (b) after “as alderman” insert “or alderwoman”;
  - (c) after “as an alderman” insert “or alderwoman”.
- (5) In subsection (4), after “honorary alderman” insert “or honorary alderwoman”.
- (6) After that subsection insert—

“(4A) A principal council may spend such reasonable sum as they think fit for the purpose of presenting an address, or a casket containing an address, to a person on whom they have conferred the title of honorary alderman or honorary alderwoman.”

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, Section 29. (See end of Document for details)

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- (7) For subsections (5) to (9) (honorary freemen) there is substituted—
- “(5) Subject as follows, a relevant authority may admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority—
- (a) persons of distinction, and
  - (b) persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area.
- (6) In this section “relevant authority” means—
- (a) a principal council;
  - (b) a parish or community council;
  - (c) charter trustees in England constituted—
    - (i) under section 246 of the Local Government Act 1972,
    - (ii) by the Charter Trustees Regulations 1996 (SI 1996/263), or
    - (iii) under Part 1 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- (7) The power in subsection (5) above is exercisable by resolution of the relevant authority.
- (8) A resolution under subsection (7) above must be passed—
- (a) at a meeting of the relevant authority which is specially convened for the purpose and where notice of the object of the meeting has been given; and
  - (b) by not less than two-thirds of the members of the relevant authority (or, in the case of charter trustees, of the trustees) who vote on it.
- (9) A relevant authority may spend such reasonable sum as it thinks fit for the purpose of presenting an address or a casket containing an address to a person on whom the authority has conferred the title of honorary freeman or honorary freewoman under subsection (5) above.
- (10) The admission of a person as honorary freeman or honorary freewoman does not confer on that person any of the rights referred to in section 248(4) above.”

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**Commencement Information**

**II** S. 29 in force at 12.1.2010, see s. 148(1)(d)

**Changes to legislation:**

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