



**LORD MAYOR'S  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2012/2013**

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### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This report provides a review of my year in office and includes suggested improvements.

### **2. Thanks**

- 2.1 It has been a great honour to serve Sheffield as Lord Mayor during 2012/13.

I would also like to record my thanks to those who have supported me throughout the year. The Secretaries, Chauffeurs, Macebearer and the Kier front of house staff, porters and catering staff. Often forgotten, but they are the ambassadors and often the first people the members of the public see before they see the Lord Mayor. All of them provide an invaluable service for which I am grateful.

- 2.2 My thanks also to the events team who have had a very special year to manage and at all the events I have attended as Lord Mayor, particularly the swimming, they have spoken highly of the support they have received from the events team time and time again which is why they keep coming back to Sheffield as their base.
- 2.3 Clearly the outstanding memory for me as the Lord Mayor is how special the people of Sheffield made it. A special year which included the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Olympic Torch coming to Sheffield, Jessica Ennis returning successfully to Sheffield with a gold medal and Jamaica's 50<sup>th</sup> independence anniversary, just to mention a few.
- 2.4 I would also like to place on record my appreciation to Catherine who played her part as Lady Mayoress, her support has been invaluable and she did a fantastic job, on occasions standing in for me when I was unable to attend due to ill-health. Clearly, throughout the year she grew in stature and confidence.

### **3. The Year In Office**

- 3.1 The year was filled with a number of memorable events.
- 3.2 Overwhelmingly, the people of Sheffield and organisations respect the non political role the Lord Mayor holds, but there are a few organisations/groups who try to manipulate the Lord Mayor's office inappropriately for their own agendas.

- 3.3 The parlour is a very grand and impressive room, and I had the pleasure of entertaining many visitors from all different backgrounds, from both within and outside of the City.
- 3.4 I hosted many events in the Town Hall for the voluntary sector, commerce, overseas visitors, delegations, NHS, universities, schools, TARAs (Tenants and Residents Associations) etc.
- 3.5 During my year of office, events took us across the length and breadth of the City, on occasions outside of the City, Wembley, Tidworth Army Base, Buckingham Palace and Kuwait.
- 3.6 I have tried during my year of office to promote Sheffield in an ambassadorial role supported by the Lady Mayoress.
- 3.7 I have tried to highlight some of the key events we supported during our year in office.
- 3.8 The year started with the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and we attended a number of events across the City from street parties to events in church halls, schools and youth clubs.
- 3.9 The Olympic torch passing through Sheffield was another memorable event. On the day, we visited schools and parks across the City before joining the celebrations in Sheffield City Centre. Thousands of members of the public turned out to share the moment.
- 3.10 Many teams and individuals from around the world took the opportunity to use the fantastic facilities we have available in Sheffield, although we were not able to say a welcome to all of them, we did meet the Great Britain basketball team, the Great Britain volleyball team, Korea's women's volleyball team, Australia's women's basketball team, Great Britain boxing team, and Russia and China's rhythmic gymnastic team. As well as this, we attended all the swimming qualifying championships which were held here in Sheffield at Ponds Forge.
- 3.11 Jessica Ennis's return to the City with her gold medal was the highlight of the year. Twenty thousand people in Sheffield City Centre, a highly charged electric atmosphere. It was a wonderful homecoming and welcome back and I was proud to have been the Lord Mayor in office who was able to deliver that welcome on behalf of the City.
- 3.12 I was invited by the Governor of Kuwait to be a visitor to his Country. The warmth and friendship that was bestowed upon myself and the Lady Mayoress will long be remembered.
- 3.13 We visited many sites and met Ministers, Faith Leaders and citizens of Kuwait. In the long term, it is hoped that Sheffield can establish a partnership agreement with Kuwait, something I know they are very keen to develop.

3.14 The aim of the visit was to seek more support for the Alemaan Trust community centre which is being built in Sheffield. Kuwait has underpinned the cost of this development which will not just be an asset for the Muslim community in Sheffield, but will be a multi cultural centre which all faiths and community groups will be able to access.

3.15 As I am doing this report, I am still not aware how much has been raised for the Lord Mayor's Charities as I am still awaiting for cheques to be cleared into the Lord Mayor's account managed by the Lord Mayor's office.

#### **4. Conclusion**

4.1 It was a wonderful year and one which I will always take great pride that I was Sheffield's Lord Mayor. The support I have received on the many visits and events we attended will always be with myself and Catherine.

#### **5. Recommendations**

5.1 Although not wishing to portray negative aspects about my year in office, concerns have been raised previously regarding corporate gifts.

5.2 When visitors come to the Parlour they often bring gifts, but the Lord Mayor has very little to offer them in return. This is something which needs to be considered to enable future Lord Mayor's to reciprocate the gifts they receive.

5.3 I have written to the Director of Legal and Governance with a detailed report and recommendations as to how the Lord Mayor's charity should be administered. I am very disappointed that I cannot tell you the amount which has been raised from the Lord Mayor's charity as the figures are not yet available. In particular I would like to see one account with a balance sheet made available to the Lord Mayor.

5.4 I would ask Council meeting to note this report and give consideration to the recommendations.

Councillor John Campbell