

Sunderland City Council

At an Extraordinary meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL on WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2026 at 6.00pm.

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Haque) in the Chair
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Thornton)

Councillors	Burrell	Feeley	Johnston	Snowdon, D
	Butler	Fletcher	Jones	Snowdon, D E
	Chapman	Foster	Leonard	Speding
	Chequer	Glancy	Mordey	Stewart
	Chisnall	Guy	Mullen	Tobin
	Dagg	Hartnack	Scanlan	Trueman
	Dixon	Heron	Smith, A	Usher
	Dodds	Hunter	Smith, G	Williams
	Elms			

Also Present:

Honorary Aldermen Greenfield and Wood

The notice convening the meeting was read.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Blackburn, Bond, Clinton, Crosby, Donkin, Edgeworth, Fagan, Gibson, Graham-King, Haswell, Hodson, Laverick, Laws, McKinley, F Miller, G Miller, O'Brien, Potts, Samuels, Tye, P Walker, Walton, Wilson and Wood together with Honorary Alderwoman Farthing and Aldermen Forbes and Tate.

Honorary Freedom of the City – Sister Mary Scholastica and Paul Callaghan

The Chief Executive submitted a report which invited the Council to confer the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Sister Mary Scholastica and Paul Callaghan.

The Mayor extended a warm welcome to all present at the meeting and Canon Clare MacLaren offered prayers.

It was moved by the Leader of the Council and duly seconded by Councillor Scanlan that the Council formally confer the title of Honorary Freeman of the City upon Sister Mary Scholastica.

The Leader of Council, Councillor Scanlan, Alderman Wood, Councillor Jones, Councillor Hartnack and Councillor Trueman spoke to the motion and on being put to the meeting it was unanimously agreed and it was: -

31. RESOLVED that that in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council do admit Sister Mary Scholastica to be an Honorary Freeman of the City, in recognition of the example of commitment and achievement she sets in serving the community and seafarers at the Port of Sunderland and as an ambassador for Sunderland and role model for young people in the city.

Sister Mary Scholastica was invited to be presented with a presentational copy of the Council's resolution by the Mayor and to sign the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the City. Ed Hanson responded with an acceptance speech on behalf of Sister Mary.

It was then moved by the Leader of the Council and duly seconded by the Deputy Leader that the Council formally confer the title of Honorary Freeman of the City upon Paul Callaghan.

The Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader, Councillor Dixon, Councillor Jones and Councillor Trueman spoke to the motion and on it being put to the meeting it was unanimously agreed and it was: -

32. RESOLVED that in pursuance of the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council do admit Paul Callaghan to be an Honorary Freeman of the City, in recognition of the example of commitment and achievement he sets in contributing to business, education and culture, as an ambassador for Sunderland and role model for young people in the city.

Mr Callaghan was invited to be presented with a presentational copy of the Council's resolution by the Mayor and to sign the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the City. He responded with an acceptance speech.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) E HAQUE
Mayor