

Councillor Stephen Cowan

Leader of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
Hammersmith Town Hall, London W6 9JU



5 February 2019

Councillor Daryl Brown
Mayor of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
Hammersmith Town Hall
London
W6 9JU

Dear Madam Mayor

I am pleased to propose the award of Freedom of the Borough and to confer the title "Honorary Aldermen" on former Mayor Kenneth Michael Cartwright in recognition of his achievements and public service which has hugely benefitted our council, and the residents of our borough and across London.

Mike first got elected as an Ipswich Borough Councillor, when he was just 23 years old. He served in that role for 12 years. He then moved on to serve for 5 years on Suffolk County Council.

Mike was elected as a Hammersmith Broadway ward Councillor in 1992 – a position he held for 26 years. During that time Mike served our local residents and businesses with diligence and hard-work, carrying out regular surgeries, dealing with thousands of people's casework and dedicating his time to serving all in our community, from all different walks of life.

Mike served on the Planning Committee nearly all his time as councillor. As a chartered surveyor Mike was our local expert bringing his extensive knowledge of planning to that role.

Mike has been an enthusiastic and supportive governor of two schools in the borough since 1992; Sacred Heart School, and Larmenier and Sacred Heart Primary School.

Mike's influence as a leader was beyond the boundaries of our local Council. He chaired the Mortlake Crematorium Board for 9 years. He served on the Western Riverside Waste Authority where he spotlighted that organisation's failings and was a positive force for change.

Mike was a local magistrate for 13 years where he worked hard to ensure that the people within the criminal justice system received the best service. His exceptional grasp of legal matters and his people skills projected him to Chair of the Bench. He had a particular interest in tackling domestic violence and the plight of women as women often go through a horrendous court situation. During his time on the bench, Mike was a long-term supporter of the specialist domestic violence court in Hammersmith Magistrates Court. He made sure people were properly dealt with and supported in such a way that the work in Hammersmith became an example for other courts across the country.

Mike was the Chair of the Association of London Government (now London Councils) Environment Committee for many years – shaping the policies which affect the lives of many Londoners today and being central to maintaining the Freedom Pass and bringing in a new rule giving equality to men and women so both received the Freedom Pass when they reached their 60th birthday.

Mike was the Cabinet Member for the Environment in the former Labour administration for many years. He became Deputy Leader of the Opposition in 2006.

In 2014 Mike was elected as the Deputy Leader of the Council. He had responsibility for crime and policing – introducing new funding to deliver the largest number of council-funded police in the borough’s history at a time of huge government cuts to police funding. Mike stepped down from that position in 2017 to become the Mayor.

I have known Mike Cartwright for 24 years. His contributions to the local community, the Labour Group, this Council and London are beyond compare. I know he made many friends across our borough and won the respect of many more. I think it’s fair to say we are all very proud of Mike and everything he achieved. He is a good man who has dedicated his life to public service. I am therefore delighted to propose this honour for Kenneth Michael Cartwright.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Stephen Cowan

Leader of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

cc

- **Cllr Mercy Umeh**, Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Cllr. Sue Fennimore**, Deputy Leader of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Cllr Colin Aherne**, Chief Whip for the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Andy Slaughter**, Member of Parliament for Hammersmith
- **Kevin McGrath OBE**, Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Kim Smith**, Chief Executive of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Kayode Adewumi**, Head of Scrutiny and Governance for the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Rosemary Pettit**, Former Mayoress of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham