

CORE OFFER BUDGET FOR THE MAYOR AND MAYOROL SUPPORT

WHY DOES THE COUNCIL HAVE TO PROVIDE THIS SERVICE AND WHAT DOES IT NEED TO COVER?

The role of the ceremonial Mayor in Darlington is not a statutory function, however the role is of historical significance having existed since the Royal Charter was granted to Darlington in 1867.

HOW DOES THE CORE OFFER BUDGET MEET THE COUNCIL'S OBLIGATIONS?

The Mayor is the Council's first citizen and Chairs the meetings of Council. At civic functions and events the role includes receiving visiting dignitaries, welcoming new citizens at citizenship ceremonies, attending Church and Memorial Services (including Remembrance and Holocaust) and representing the Borough at a range of other meetings and events. The Mayor attends many meetings and events through the year of office and helps in the promotion of the Borough, its businesses, people and culture. Through the work of the Mayor, the Council is able to acknowledge and recognise work done by residents, volunteers and business and to give prominence to local people, organisations and business. The Mayor is also involved in educational work with young people in schools and colleges. Previous Mayors have been able to raise significant money for local charities.

There are indirect positive impacts on the Town's visibility, economic growth, and community well-being through the Office of the Mayor.

Some of the functions would still need to be undertaken if the role was discontinued and there would be cost implications of doing so.

DOES THIS DIFFER FROM THE CURRENT SERVICE?

The budget provision is at the current level.

WHAT IS THE CORE BUDGET MADE UP OF?

2019/20 - £68,180

Mayoral Support/Allowances £28,375

Mayoral Officer/Chauffeurs £37,720

Overheads £2,085