

Civic Lunch 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Lord Lieutenant, Vice Lord Lieutenant, Chairman of The County Council Your Honours, Ladies and Gentlemen.  
How lovely to be here amongst friends all trying to achieve the same goal -to make Surrey a happier place and for a number of 1.75 million residents this needs to be done. So I have divided the High Sheriff's role into 4 areas that I want to outline to you in brief in the hope that this helps makes more sense of an Office that has existed for over a 1000 years and may have the opportunity to work with you by doubling the effort to quadruple the result.

1. Role of the High Sheriff - first and foremost to be the Queens representative for law and order. It is an entirely voluntary role. It therefore means supporting judiciary magistrates, coroners, police, prison service, probation service and emergency services. It also means to reduce and prevent crime so this is where I see that we can look to support charities and social enterprises who work to improve the opportunities, particularly for young people, those disadvantaged and minority groups where life's problems are more acute.
2. Particular area of interest - chairs and mayors, I know you all have your Charity of the year that you support and similarly as High Sheriff I have chosen one particular area I feel strongly about. For me this is Nurture through Surrey's Nature. I've coined this phrase to focus on the opportunities that Surrey's great outdoors can offer, particularly to young people who are struggling with life. There is already much

work going on in this field and my aim is to highlight, support and encourage this fantastic work, connecting those in need.

3. HSYA - I want to mention HSYA. This is a charity that has existed for 20 years in Surrey. The charity awards grants to small groups and charities supporting young people, particularly related to crime prevention. I am so grateful for the support from your boroughs and I would really encourage you to spread the word to any organisations in your borough that might benefit from our support. I have a bundle of leaflets here. The charity is run on a totally voluntary basis and as a trustee of other grant making charities, I am incredibly impressed by HSYA's governance and voluntary assessors.
  
4. High Sheriffs Award for Mayors recognition - continuing on from my predecessor Jim Glover's work, I would really like to support you all if you are wishing to give recognition to an individual or small group within your borough or district with a dedicated High Sheriff Award.

I really look forward to working with you over the next 10 months and hoping that by joining forces, we can make a difference.