

## Appendix A

### **Speech by Cllr Nick McLean nominating Cllr Janice Howard for Mayor of the London Borough of Merton**

Thank you Madam Mayor,

It is with great pleasure that in my first mayor making as Leader of the Conservative Group I have the privilege of nominating our Conservative colleague, Wimbledon Park Councillor, Janice Howard as first citizen and Mayor of the London Borough of Merton for the year 2019 - 20 – a deserved honour in recognition of her contribution to Merton residents, the Council and wider civic society.

We in the Conservative Group have experienced first-hand the hard work, energy and diligence that she brings to the role of Councillor – skills that will contribute greatly to a successful mayoralty.

Madam Mayor, Councillor Howard, was elected to Merton Council in 2010 where she has pursued her passionate agenda of promoting healthy lifestyles to improve the lives of residents.

Madam Mayor – it is with this passion that during the coming year, Cllr Howard will, as Mayor, deliver her messages on how a few simple lifestyle changes can really impact positively on everyone's quality of life.

Among Councillor Howard's many achievements is the pride that she has taken in promoting, alongside Councillor Kirby, and others from the cultural advisory group – the very successful and highly regarded - Film Merton.

It is this combination of cultural and healthy living that underpins an improved lifestyle for residents and is why Councillor Howard is its champion.

During her long career in corporate conference and events management, Councillor Howard also successfully studied for, and achieved with distinction, a Master's degree in operations management – study that was undertaken as a working mum demonstrating her drive and determination.

And it is these strong personal and organisational characteristics that will help raise the profile of Councillor Howard's chosen charities.

Madam Mayor, Councillor Howard is a much valued member of the Conservative Group - and as we wish her every success, we also want her to know that we, as will all Merton Councillors, be there in support. I now nominate and I urge this council to then elect Cllr Janice Howard as Mayor of the London Borough of Merton for the year 2019-2020. Thank you.