

A Guide to the Office of Mayor of the City of Derby 2026-27




Derby City Council

The Mayor of the City of Derby, Councillor Jonathan Smale

Jonathan is Derby born and bred, with a lifelong passion for Derby, its history, and its communities. First elected to Derby City Council in 2016, he has spent the past decade serving local residents, previously representing Chaddesden Ward and now Spondon.

Throughout his time in local government, Jonathan has taken on a range of leadership roles, including serving as a Cabinet Member and Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee. Alongside his council duties, he has remained actively involved in the voluntary sector, supporting local charities, organisations, and community initiatives.

Jonathan currently serves as a trustee of Derby War Memorial Village, supporting local veterans and housing management. He has also previously served as a director of West Park School in Spondon, Community Action Derby, and several local disability and cultural organisations.

Jonathan lives with his husband, Adam, and their bulldog, Victoria. A lifelong supporter of Derby County F.C., he is proud to serve as Mayor of Derby for the 2026–27 municipal year and to represent the city he proudly calls home.



The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Richard Hudson

Richard was born and raised in the Breadsall Hill Top area of Derby and was elected in 2016 to represent his local community. After first serving the former Derwent Ward, he now represents Chaddesden North Ward.

Over the past decade, Richard has worked closely with local organisations, including St Philip's Church and Roe Farm Community Centre, helping to support community projects and activities across the area.

During his time on the Council, Richard has served on several committees, including as Chair of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Board and Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee. Alongside his council duties, he has continued his professional career managing marketing projects nationwide.

Richard lives in Breadsall Hill Top with his partner of 21 years, former Councillor James Testro. He considers it an honour to represent the community where he was born, raised and continues to live, and to serve as Deputy Mayor of Derby for the current municipal year.



Guide to the Mayor's Office

Invitations to the Mayor

The Mayor welcomes invitations to attend events from across the city. Their diary is often very busy so we advise issuing invitations as early as possible. Invitations which are received less than 14 days before the event cannot be accepted. Invitations must be made via the [online booking form](#). Once a booking form has been received a member of the Civic Support team will contact the event organiser to seek further details.

It is helpful if you can provide as much information as possible in the booking form to assist the process. If the Mayor is not available at the time requested, an alternative may be suggested. Further information about inviting the Mayor to an event can be found on the Council's [website](#).

The Mayor's position is an apolitical one. They will seek to avoid official duties where their presence could be considered divisive to good community relations.

Protocol Guidance

The Mayor, as First Citizen, should be accorded due precedence within the city. The Mayor should be addressed as Mr/Madam Mayor and their consort as either Madam Mayoress or Mayor's Consort. A responsible person should greet them and introduce them to the host. When the Mayor enters the event/room, they will be announced by the Chauffeur Attendant. On more formal occasions, those present should rise and this should be repeated when they leave.

It is normal protocol that the Mayor be invited to speak first when speeches are to be given. The correct title for the Mayor for formal invitations and introductions is **The Right Worshipful the Mayor of the City of Derby, Councillor Jonathan Smale**. In a more informal situation, the correct form for introductions is **The Mayor of Derby, Councillor Jonathan Smale**. After initial introductions the

Mayor should be addressed as Mr/Madam Mayor. Unless the Mayor occupies the Chair, they should be seated on the immediate right of the Chairman (assuming Royalty, the Lord Lieutenant or High Sheriff are not present).

Recognition and Celebration

Derby City Council provides recognition to citizens for special achievements, community service, or special occasions such as 100th birthdays and wedding anniversaries over 50 years. Visitors may also be hosted at a Mayor's reception.

Please contact civic.support@derby.gov.uk if you would like to arrange any of the above.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Mayor

- Presiding over Council meetings and, in the case of equality of votes, they have a second or casting vote
- Promoting and raising awareness of the Council's main objectives and priority issues
- Encouraging and supporting all aspects of life in the City of Derby by attending civic and public events
- Receiving distinguished visitors to the city
- Acting as host on behalf of the Council and the citizens of Derby at civic functions
- Promoting Derby as a tourism destination
- Acting as a spokesperson to the local, national and international media
- Providing an appropriate response on behalf of Derby City Council at times of local, national and international catastrophe
- Promoting Derby as a place of excellence in which to live and do business
- Supporting and encouraging charitable and other appeals as appropriate.

The Mayor's Charities for the Year

Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre (DCHC)

Since 1891, DCHC has provided free seaside holidays for children across Derbyshire facing poverty, disadvantage, or challenging home circumstances. The charity believes every child deserves the opportunity to experience joy, adventure, friendship, and lasting memories. In 2026, DCHC celebrates 135 years of supporting young people and is running its 'Comeback Appeal', aiming to raise £75,000 to strengthen the charity and expand its life-changing holidays. Every donation will help more children enjoy a much-needed break, build confidence, and create positive memories for the future. (Charity number: 218063)

The Living Recovery Foundation

Supports people affected by addiction, homelessness, trauma, offending behaviour, and other complex challenges across Derbyshire. Founded to continue the work of the former Jericho Society, the charity provides person-centred recovery programmes, supported housing, aftercare, mentoring, and community-based support to help individuals rebuild their lives. Its services focus on long-term wellbeing, emotional resilience, practical life skills, employment opportunities, and social reintegration. The foundation also works with families and local communities, helping people achieve lasting recovery, regain independence, and develop the confidence, stability, and support networks needed to create a healthier future. (Charity number: 1211996)

Mayor Jonathan Smale is proud to be raising money for these fantastic causes during 2026-27.

Please contact Civic Support should you wish to make a donation to the Mayor's Charity Fund.

The Mayor does not charge for attending events, but where possible, we encourage commercial organisations to donate to the Mayor's Charity. There is no minimum suggested donation, but it is assumed that this will be proportionate to the size of your business.

If you would like to make a donation, please use the following details:

- **Account name: DCC – Mayor's Charity Account**
- **Sort Code: 30 92 59**
- **Account Number: 89748660**
- **Bank: Lloyds Bank**

Please set the reference of the transaction to be your organisation's name.

When you transfer the funds, please notify [**civic.support@derby.gov.uk**](mailto:civic.support@derby.gov.uk) for audit purposes.

Contact Civic Support

Civic Support are always happy to discuss the Mayor's availability to attend or host an event and to advise on protocol. Please note that bookings must be made via the [**online booking form**](#).

Email: [**civic.support@derby.gov.uk**](mailto:civic.support@derby.gov.uk)

Phone: **01332 643066**

Text phone: Relay UK **01800 01332 643066**