



## **PROTOCOL FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF THE SOVEREIGN, A SENIOR NATIONAL FIGURE OR LOCAL HOLDER OF HIGH OFFICE**

This protocol sets out the action to be taken in the event of the death of the Sovereign and on the death of other members of the Royal Family or Senior National Figure.

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**Her Majesty Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.**

**HRH The Duke of Edinburgh  
HRH The Prince of Wales  
HRH The Duchess of Cornwall  
HRH The Duke of Cambridge  
HRH The Duchess of Cambridge  
HRH Prince George of Cambridge  
HRH Princess Charlotte of Cambridge  
HRH Prince Louis of Cambridge  
HRH The Duke of York  
HRH The Earl of Wessex  
HRH The Princess Royal  
HRH The Countess of Wessex  
HRH The Duke of Gloucester  
HRH The Duchess of Gloucester  
HRH The Duke of Kent  
HRH Prince Michael of Kent  
HRH Princess Michael of Kent  
HRH Princess Alexandra**

**The Prime Minister  
A Former Prime Minister  
Serving Member of Parliament  
A Member of Credition Town Council**

*The above list is subject to special commands for the Sovereign in each case.*

**The Queen will be given a State Funeral.**

**The Duke of Edinburgh and HRH The Prince of Wales will be given a Ceremonial Royal Funeral.**

**The Duchess of Cornwall, The Duke of Cambridge, The Duchess of Cambridge, Prince George of Cambridge, Princess Charlotte of Cambridge, Prince Louis of Cambridge, The Duke of York, The Earl of Wessex, The Princess Royal, The Countess of Wessex, The Duke of Gloucester, The**



**Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke of Kent, Princess Michael of Kent and Princess Alexandra will be given Non-Ceremonial Royal Funerals.**

**Summary of what needs to happen and when:**

<p><b>Day of Death</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) On the formal announcement of the death, immediately lower the Union flag.</li> <li>b) Initial statement to be issued by the Council expressing the Authority's sadness on hearing the announcement. Detailed statement to follow (it may be prudent to wait to issue a detailed statement until formal arrangements have been confirmed by Buckingham Palace).</li> </ul>
<p><b>D+1 (the day following the death) – Principle Proclamation Day in London</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Detailed statement to be issued including details of the Book of Condolence at Credition Council Offices, a link to the national e-Book of Condolence, flag flying, the Proclamation and the 2 minutes silence. To be signed by the Town Mayor.</li> <li>b) From 10:00 hrs, open a Book of Condolence in the reception area of Credition Town Council Offices.</li> <li>c) At 11:00 hrs raise the flag to mast head and keep there until the end of the Proclamation Ceremony in the Town Square on D+2. After this return the flag to half-mast until the morning after the day of the funeral.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D+3</b></p>	<p>At 11:00 hrs the Town Mayor reads the Proclamation on the Town Square. This will take place AFTER Mid Devon District have read the Proclamation on the same morning.</p>
<p><b>D+10 Funeral Day</b></p>	<p>At 11:00 hrs the Town Mayor leads a 2 minute silence on the Town Square.</p>
<p><b>D+11</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Union flag taken down at 08:00 hrs.</li> <li>b) Book of Condolence to be closed at 14:00 hrs.</li> <li>c) Letter of Condolence from the Council to be sent to the new Sovereign's Private Secretary.</li> <li>d) Agree where the Book of Condolence (signed in Credition Council Offices) shall be kept for posterity and future inspection.</li> </ul>



## Detailed guidance

### Immediately

Action required	Who by?
<p>The Town Clerk will ensure contact is made as a matter of urgency (using the contact numbers provided in a separate appendix) with the following individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Town Mayor</li><li>• Town Councillors</li><li>• Staff</li></ul>	Town Clerk

### Flag flying

Action required	Implemented by
<p><b>On the formal announcement of the Death</b> the Union flag will be lowered to half-mast until 08:00 hrs on the morning following the Funeral. (The funeral of the Sovereign will take place 10 days after the day of death.)</p> <p><b>Except:</b> The day following the death will be Proclamation Day (the day when the new Sovereign is proclaimed). On Proclamation Day flags will, at the start of the day, be flying at half-mast. All flags will then be flown at the mast-head from 11:00 hrs on D+1 to coincide with the Reading of the Principal Proclamation (in London) and until the end of the Proclamation Ceremony in the Town Square on D+2 where they will be returned to half- mast.</p>	Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk



## Statements by the Council

Action required	Implemented by
<p>The Town Mayor will issue a statement via the Council Office expressing the sadness of the Council and people of the Town at the news of the death of HM the Queen. The statement will also appear on the home page of Credition Town Council's Website.</p> <p>The statement will confirm that flags are to be flown at half-mast and will give details of Books of Condolence. It will also mention any arrangements for an e-Book of Condolence on the Royal website, the reading of the Proclamation and the two minutes silence on funeral day.</p>	<p>Statement to be issued by the Council Office.</p> <p>Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk.</p>

## Books of Condolence

Action required	Implemented by
<p>On the day following the announcement of the death of the Sovereign, a Book of Condolence will be opened at the Credition Town Council Offices.</p> <p>Books of Condolence will be open from 10.00 to 14:00 Monday to Friday and will remain open until 14:00 on the day following the funeral.</p> <p>A table and chair will be positioned in a quiet area. A Book of Condolence will be supplied by the Town Clerk for Credition Town Council Offices as will a table cloth, a vase of flowers and a framed photograph of the Sovereign.</p>	<p>The Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk to locate and set up a quiet area with a table and chair.</p>
<p>When the Book of Condolence has been closed (the day after the funeral) the Town Clerk will discuss with the Town Mayor arrangements for binding and where the final bound version is to be lodged.</p>	



## Proclamation Day

Action required	Implemented by
<p>The Principle Proclamation will be made in London on the day following the death D+1.</p> <p>At County level High Sheriffs are expected to make their Reading of the Proclamation at 2.00pm on D+2 in the County town.</p> <p>Mid Devon District C will make the Proclamation the following day (D+3) at 10:00 hrs.</p> <p>The Town Mayor will make the Proclamation later that day (D+3) at 11:00 hrs (the words will be provided by Buckingham Palace) on the Town Square.</p> <p>A designated area will be identified for the public to lay flowers. (Town Square)</p> <p><u>Those to be invited:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Chairmen (each to receive a copy of the Proclamation to take back to their towns and parishes to place on village notice boards).</li> <li>• All Members (to wear black ties and black arm bands)</li> <li>• Police Commander</li> <li>• Fire Commander</li> <li>• Others holding positions of responsibility within the town</li> <li>• The public</li> <li>• Staff</li> </ul>	<p>Notification of the reading of the Proclamation to be given by the Town Clerk.</p> <p>Council Staff to ensure that the public are informed by way of a press release and item on the Council's website.</p>

## Events during the period of Mourning

Action required	Implemented by
<p>It will be necessary to review the programme of engagements undertaken by the Town Clerk and Town Mayor to ensure it is appropriate in a time of national</p>	<p>The Town Mayor with the Town Clerk.</p>



mourning and that it sits comfortably with the national mood.	
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## Dress Code

Action required	Implemented by
<p>On the death of the Sovereign, the Chains of office will not be worn by the Town Mayor for the duration of the mourning period, instead the badge of office will be worn on a black neck ribbon.</p> <p>A stock of black arm bands and black neck ribbons will be held and made available by the Town Clerk for use by Councillors and senior officers at any official event during the mourning period.</p>	Town Clerk

## Marking a Silence

Action required	Implemented by
<p>On the death of the Sovereign there will be a two minute silence on the Town Square at 11.00 am on the day of the funeral (D+10). Precise details will be announced by Buckingham Palace.</p> <p>The Town Mayor to preside.</p> <p><u>Those to be invited:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Chairmen</li> <li>• All Members (to wear black ties and black arm bands)</li> <li>• Police Commander</li> <li>• Fire Commander</li> <li>• Others holding positions of responsibility within the town</li> <li>• The public</li> <li>• Staff</li> </ul>	<p>Council Staff to arrange access</p> <p>Council Staff to ensure that the public are informed by way of a press release and item on the Council's website.</p> <p>Town Clerk</p>



<p>The Public Observing of the Silence to be publicised.</p> <p><b><i>A bugler or drumroll will sound to mark the beginning and end of the two minutes silence in Tiverton, Credition and Cullompton.</i></b></p>	
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## Letters of Condolence

Action required	Implemented by	Other Notes
<p>A letter of condolence should be sent to the new Sovereign's Private Secretary asking that condolences be passed to the new Sovereign. Only one letter should be sent.</p>	<p>The Town Clerk on behalf of the Town Mayor.</p>	