

Committee	Full Council
Date	14 August 2023
Agenda Item	7e

Mayor's chain

The current Mayor's chain has been in use probably for about 40 years, and is now completely full. A second chain was added, but all the discs available have now been used up.

The Clerk has sought several quotes for a completely new chain, and so far, these range from £5000 - £10,000 for a completely new chain.

The possibility of refurbishing the old chain and adding a third row of discs is now being considered. The Clerk has contacted the original makers, and they have confirmed that they are able to refurbish the existing chain. This would include adding a third row of discs, replacing the worn velvet backing, and ensuring that the medal is properly attached and does not fall off while the chain is being worn. This is likely to be much cheaper than buying a new chain, and will extend the life of the chain which has been part of the council for so many years.

Quote 1 from original maker

To supply a third row of chain links to match the existing pattern, and then remount the three chains onto a velvet backing.

In gilded sterling silver **£3425.00 + vat**

Fixing the medal mechanism £100.00

Total £3525 + vat

This work will take 8 – 12 weeks to complete

Quote 2

The details for the repair/ refurbishment are as follows.

- One new outer chain with plaque and knot links to match the existing 2 chains, made in solid 925 sterling silver with gold plating/ gilding.
- New wider velvet backing to accommodate the additional row of chains.

These repairs come to £2300+VAT

I would also suggest having the existing chains, plaques, links and medal re-gilded as it will make the new and the old parts look more cohesive. This will be at an additional cost of £450+VAT

As soon as the quote is agreed, this expert would take approximately 4 weeks to complete the work, but he will not need the current chain until he has made the new row.

£2750 + vat

There is enough remaining unpredicted surplus to carry out this work.

Recommendation: that HTC agrees to the repair and enlargement of the Mayoral chain, at a total cost of £2750 + VAT.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sarah Greateorex". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first name "Sarah" and the last name "Greateorex" clearly legible.

Sarah Greateorex Town Clerk