

Date received:	11 th August 2023
Date responded:	1 st September 2023
Subject:	City Status

Question:

"Would you please let me know:-

- Have you yet received 'the Letters Patent' that formally confer 'city' status on the town?

If not yet received, please; -

- From whom do you expect them to be received from?
- When do you expect to receive them?

When received does not then The Douglas Municipal Corporation Act 1895 The Douglas Municipal Corporation Act 1895 (gov.im) need varying / repealing / other, via Tynwald?

Please also kindly inform me; -

- What is the total approved budget for completing the change, to 'city' status?
- How much of that budgeted figure has already been spent?"

Response:

Has the Council received the Letters Patent that formally confers 'City' Status on the Town, and if not received from whom do you expect them to be received from and when do you expect to receive them.

Whilst the Council aims to provide information wherever possible, this part of the request has been exempt under Section 41, information for future publication.

This exemption is a qualified exemption, which is subject to a public interest test. The Council has conducted this test and is satisfied that withholding the information for now, with the intent to release it at an undisclosed future date, is reasonable.

When received does not then The Douglas Municipal Corporation Act 1895 The Douglas Municipal Corporation Act 1895 (gov.im) need varying / repealing / other, via Tynwald?

The Douglas Municipal Corporation Act 1895 refers to the Council as "The Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses of the Borough of Douglas."

Any legal contracts should continue to use this title until an amendment is made to the Act to remove "Alderman" and change "Borough of Douglas" to "City of Douglas". In the first instance the Department of Infrastructure would be approached to progress the amendment.

The Council can call itself City for all other purposes.

- **What is the total approved budget for completing the change, to 'city' status?**
- **How much of that budgeted figure has already been spent?**

No allocated budget has been approved for completing the change to City status. Council branding (such as letterheads, uniform and vehicle signage) is being updated on an as-needed basis.