



HARROGATE TOWN COUNCIL

OFFICER REPORT

To: Town Councillors

Author: Town Clerk and Administration Officer

Date: 25th February 2026

Subject: Mayoral Chains Replacement

Reference: FC040326 3

1. Purpose of Report

To provide costed options for replacement and confirm approval for the Clerk to proceed with the purchase from the preferred supplier.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The Council's exceptionally high-value mayoral chains incur significant insurance and security requirements, creating additional costs and logistical constraints that restrict their use at civic events and limit traditional civic representation.
- 2.2 It is proposed that the existing high-value mayoral chains be reserved for key ceremonial occasions while a new lower-value set is introduced for routine engagements to maintain civic identity without incurring excessive security requirements or costs.
- 2.3 It is proposed that a set of new civic regalia, based on the council's recently adopted branding guidelines, be commissioned from Michael's Civic Robes at a total cost of £12,845.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 The current mayoral chains were valued in June 2025 after the new Town Council took over their ownership. Due to the increase in gold values, the value of the chains has now risen substantially with several items of regalia exceeding the £50,000 threshold for withholding their value from the asset register.
- 3.2 At the Town Council meeting on 9th July 2025, the Council agreed the following as item 51.4 25-26:
 - The Clerk should work with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to develop proposals for a modern chain of office in line with the new brand identity.
 - A final design, budget and usage protocol be brought to a future meeting for decision.

- 3.3 At the Finance & General Purposes Meeting on 15th October 2025 the following budget virement (allocation) was agreed, at item FGP45 25-26:
“£7,000 from general reserves to 2051 Civic Regalia to facilitate the potential purchase of new chains of office.”

4. Quotations Received for Mayoral Chains

- 4.1 Three companies were initially approached to provide a quotation and design for new Mayoral Chains of Office:
- 4.1.1 Fattorini (suppliers of the original chains of office) - <https://fattorini.co.uk/insignia-makers/civic-insignia-and-regalia/>
 - 4.1.2 Michaels Civic Robes - <https://www.civicrobes.com/product/civic-regalia/>
 - 4.1.3 Crest Regalia - <https://www.crestregalia.com/>
- 4.2 Companies were contacted by telephone and subsequently supplied with further information by email including the council's brand guidelines to use as the basis for their proposals,
- 4.3 Crest Regalia did not reply to the email request for a design and quote.
- 4.4 Fattorini provided designs and quotations for two designs of Mayoral Chains:
- 4.4.1 Option A - £7,657.50
 - i) Part cost of die - bespoke pierced Harrogate link (31mm x 23mm)
 - ii) Mayoral Pendant & Chain of Office - Hallmarked Sterling silver, 40-inch chain, alternating pierced links, engraved "MAYOR"
 - iii) Bespoke fitted presentation case
 - 4.4.2 Option B - £7,500.91
 - i) Part cost of die - bespoke pierced Harrogate link (31mm x 23mm)
 - ii) Mayoral Pendant & Chain of Office - Hallmarked Sterling silver, 40-inch chain, alternating pierced links, engraved "MAYOR"
 - iii) Bespoke fitted presentation case
- 4.5 Michaels Civic Robes provided a quotation of £4,710 for a new set of Mayoral Chains and discussions were progressed with this firm. Their final quotation sits at £3,695 for the Mayoral Chains, with ancillary items (case, velvet collar etc) as additional charges.

5. Design of Mayoral Chains

- 5.1 As a newly formed Council, it is proposed that any replacement chains reflect the organisation's contemporary vision and values, incorporating the Town Council's new branding and logo to represent our modern identity.
- 5.2 Michaels Civic Robes have supplied, free of charge, samples of the proposed bespoke links for the Mayoral chains and these will be made available for councillors to inspect.
- It must be noted that these are indicative, free samples and the overall finish (e.g. closing of links) is not indicative of the workmanship of the final product if it were ordered through Michaels.*



5.3 The proposed design for a new set of mayoral chains is appended in full to this report, but is specified as follows:

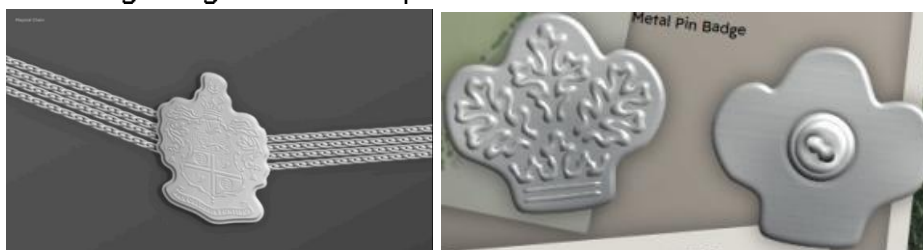


- Bright Silver Badge of Office with 3D New Harrogate Town Council Civic Emblem (90mm x 80mm x 3mm)
- Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Link with Enamel Colouring: 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- Bright Silver MAYOR Top Bar Link (3D MAYOR): 40mm x 25mm x 1.5mm
- Town Emblem Link (Crown of Springs): 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- x 28 Bright Silver Engravable Links + Crown; 35mm x 30mm x 1.5mm (Shoulder Links to have Brooch Fastening on the Inside)
- Bright Silver Oval Back Plate with 3D Crown of Springs Emblem (Brooch Fastening on the Inside)

5.4 Discussions between the Clerk, Mayor and Deputy Mayor have centred on the proposed colour of the new chains with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor preferring a gold colour.

5.5 The Town Clerk and Michaels Civic Robes prefer a silver colour, with the quotation stating:
“After reviewing the HTC Brand Book and after designing the Chain artwork, it is my [Michaels Civic Robes] recommendation to produce the Chains and Badges of Office in Bright Silver.”

5.6 The designer responsible for the Council's branding guidelines has also commented that his “inclination is very much silver on this” referring to the following images in the adopted document:



6. Deputy Mayor / Consort Chains

6.1 During the evolution of this project, discussions took place about the chains and badges worn by the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor's/Deputy Mayor's Consorts.

6.2 Consideration was given to the following points:

- 6.2.1 The value, and associated risk of wearing items. Even the value of smaller items such as badges suspended on ribbons is between £9,850 and £15,250.
- 6.2.2 The inclusion of the incorrect 'Borough of Harrogate' crest on many of the items designated for use by the Deputy Mayor and Consorts.



6.2.3 The disjointed appearance that would be given by a new set of chains appearing alongside antique items.

6.3 Designs and quotations have therefore been sought from Michaels Civic Robes for a new set of chains for the Deputy Mayor and two badges which could be used by a Mayor's Consort, Deputy Mayor's Consort or other councillors when representing the Council at official engagements.

6.4 Deputy Mayor's Chains of Office - £3,425 + VAT



- Bright Silver Badge of Office with 3D New Harrogate Town Council Civic Emblem (70mm x 60mm x 3mm)
- Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Link with Enamel Colouring: 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- Bright Silver DEPUTY MAYOR Top Bar Link (3D MAYOR): 40mm x 25mm x 1.5mm
- Town Emblem Link (Crown of Springs): 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- x 12 Bright Silver (Crown of Springs) Links + Crown: 25mm x 20mm x 1.5mm
- x 12 Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Links: 25mm x 25mm x 1.5mm - (Shoulder Links to have Brooch Fastening on the Inside)
- Bright Silver Oval Back Plate with 3D Crown of Springs Emblem (Brooch Fastening on the Inside)

6.5 Consorts' Chains - £1,850 + VAT each.



- Bright Silver Badge of Office with 3D New Harrogate Town Council Civic Emblem (50mm x 40mm x 3mm)
- Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Link with Enamel Colouring: 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- 8mm Bright Silver Chain

7. **Ancillary Items**

7.1 Chain cases will be included with the purchase of all items. This will allow for safe storage of items when not being worn.

7.2 It is recommended that consideration be given to the purchase of leather satchels for the new Mayoral and Deputy Mayor's chains. This will allow discrete but secure transportation to and from engagements.

7.3 It is recommended that velvet collars be purchased and installed with the new Mayoral and Deputy Mayor's chains. This is particularly appreciated by female Mayors who may wear lighter clothing which makes securing chains more difficult.



8. Council Comparison



The photo alongside shows a former Mayor of Wetherby wearing their silver-coloured chains on a velvet collar over the top of a lightweight, ladies' outfit.

It also shows the Deputy Mayor wearing a badge suspended on a ribbon as a comparison.

9. Financial Implications

9.1 *Is there a cost involved in the decision?*

Yes.

It is being proposed that the following items be purchased from Michael's Civic Robes in accordance with their quotation, reference 10390 (appended in full to this report).

Mayoral Chains	£4,695 + VAT
Velvet Collar	
Leather Satchel	
Deputy Mayor's Chains	£4,425 + VAT
Velvet Collar	
Leather Satchel	
Consort / Councillors Badges x2	£3,700 + VAT
Delivery	£25
TOTAL	£12,845

9.2 *Is there a budget to support the cost?*

There is £7,000 of funding already allocated to this project.

Funding for additional items would need to be taken from the councils' general reserves.

9.3 *Alternative costs.*

Consideration has been given to alternative solutions / proposals, as follows:

9.3.1 Insurance of the existing Mayoral Chains on an all-risks basis to include wearing of them off North Yorkshire Council property, with an indicative quote of £11,000 per annum being given by the council's current insurance provider.

9.3.2 Provision of an SIA accredited security guard to accompany the Mayor on official engagements whilst wearing the original chains of office - £18.50/hour. Based on an average of 8 engagements per month, lasting 2 hours per event, this would cost an estimated £3,552 per annum (not including additional transport costs).



- 9.3.3 Wearing of a mayoral badge, suspended on a ribbon which has been the temporary solution implemented over recent months. However, the value of this item is still in excess of £15,000 and it is not felt that this gives the right impression when attending events. It is expected, and indeed requested by event organisers, that the Mayor wears a set of chains when acting as the First Citizen of Harrogate.

10. Risk Factors Identified

- 10.1 **Loss or Theft** - Although the new chains are of lower value, there remains a risk of loss or theft during use or transport. It is proposed that the new chains be stored at the Mayor's home address when not in use.
- 10.2 **Damage Through Wear and Tear** - Frequent use may result in scratches, deterioration of plating, or damage to links, requiring periodic maintenance.
- 10.3 **Design or Manufacturing Defects** - To mitigate risks of construction faults or material issues, a reputable supplier with warranty cover has been selected.
- 10.4 **Brand Alignment** - The design must align with the Council's new identity and branding. Clear specifications and approval of final artwork are essential (see appendices).
- 10.5 **Public Perception and Reputational Risk** - The decision to purchase new chains may attract public interest; the rationale—cost savings, practicality, and preservation of the historic chains—should be clearly communicated.

11. Climate & Biodiversity Emergency Considerations

- 11.1 Prioritising durable materials to maximise lifespan and reduce waste.
- 11.2 Considering suppliers with recognised environmental credentials and sustainable production processes.

12. Crime & Disorder Considerations

- 12.1 The use of a lower-value set of chains will reduce security risks and the likelihood of theft, as well as eliminate the need for SIA-licensed security at routine civic events.
- 12.2 The high-value chains will remain securely stored and used only for major ceremonial occasions with appropriate risk mitigation being undertaken during their use.

13. Equality Impact Considerations

The proposal has no negative impact on individuals or groups with protected characteristics. Improved visibility of the Mayor at engagements may support inclusivity and enhance representation across diverse communities.



14. Privacy Impact Considerations

No personal data is involved in this proposal, and no privacy impacts have been identified. Supplier interactions will be limited to standard organisational contact information only.

15. Recommendations / Actions

It is recommended that the Council:

- 15.1 Considers whether to purchase the following items from Michaels Civic Robes Limited:
 - a) New Mayoral Chains (and ancillary items) at a cost of £4,695 + VAT.
 - b) New Deputy Mayoral Chains (and ancillary items) at a cost of £4,425 + VAT.
 - c) Two new Consort's Badges at a cost of £3,720 + VAT.
- 15.2 Confirms that the existing high-value chains will be retained exclusively for Remembrance Sunday and the formal appointment of a new Mayor (Mayor Making in May each year).
- 15.3 Implement insurance arrangements for the use and storage of the new chains on an 'all risks' basis to include storage at the post-holder's home address.





MICHAELS

Civic Outfitters Since 1995



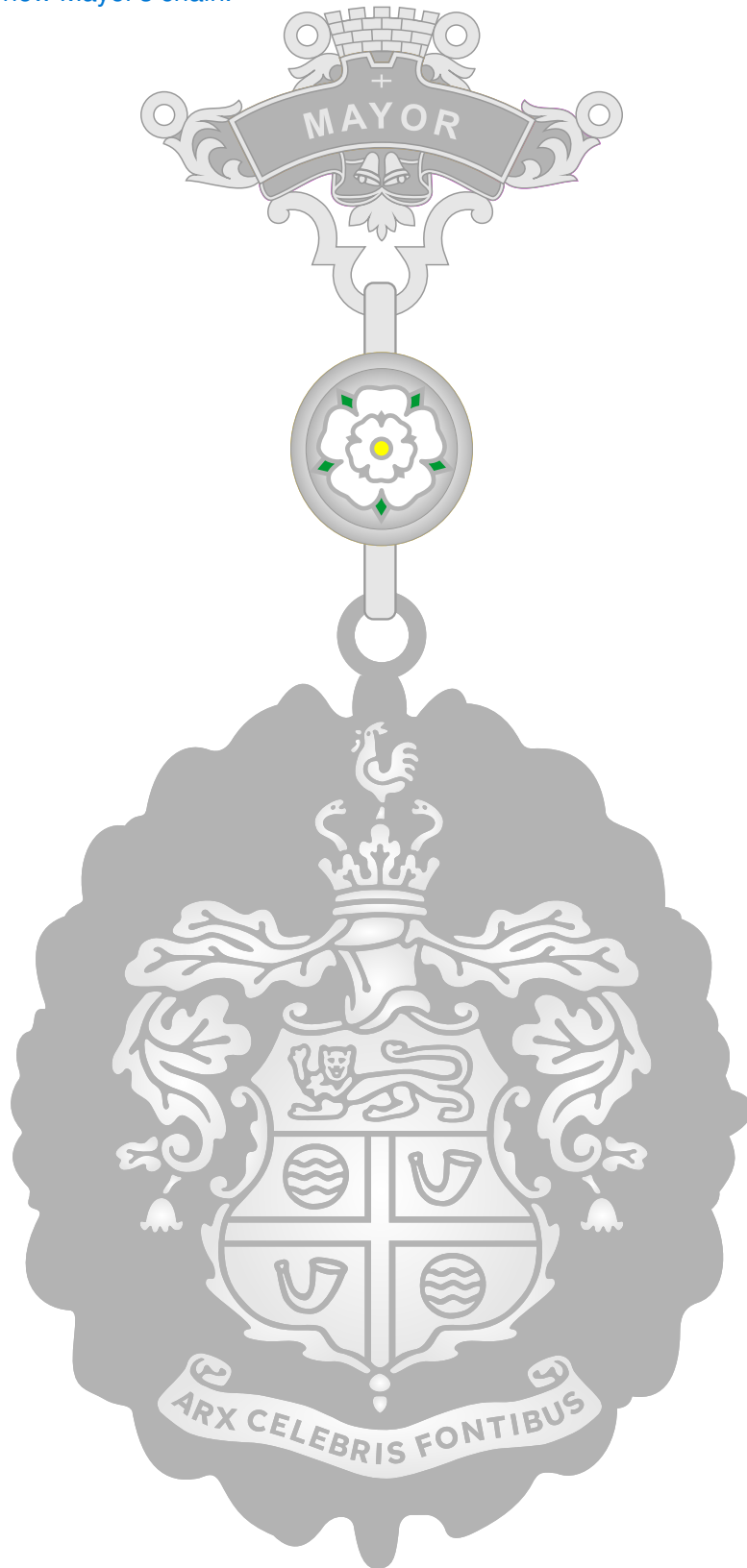
Proposed design for new
Mayor's chain.



www.civicrogalia.com



Detailing of proposed new Mayor's chain.



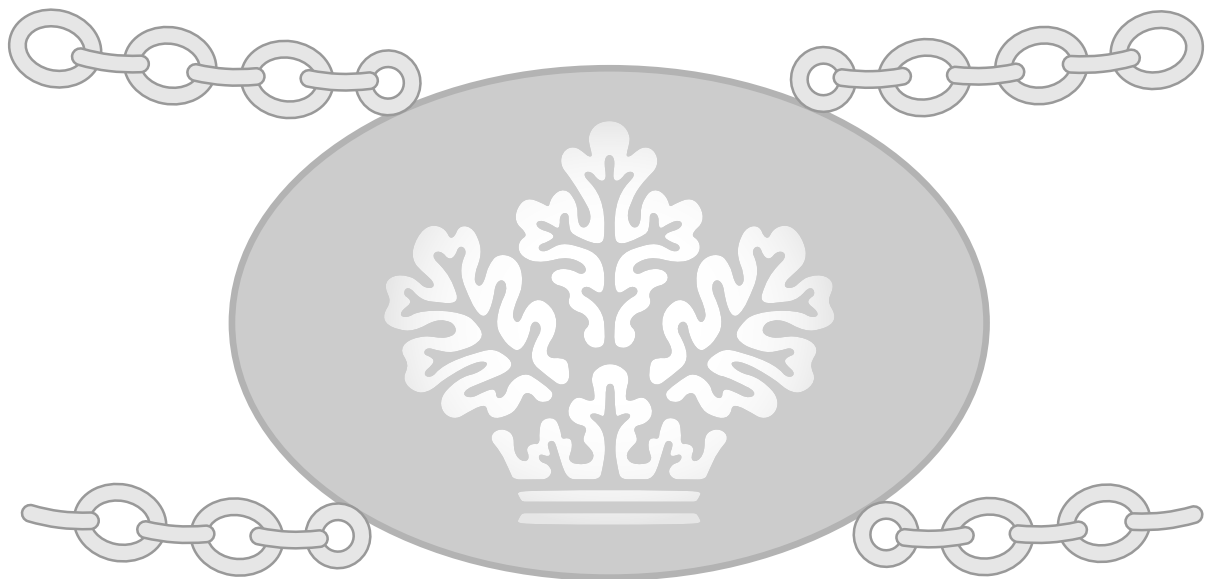
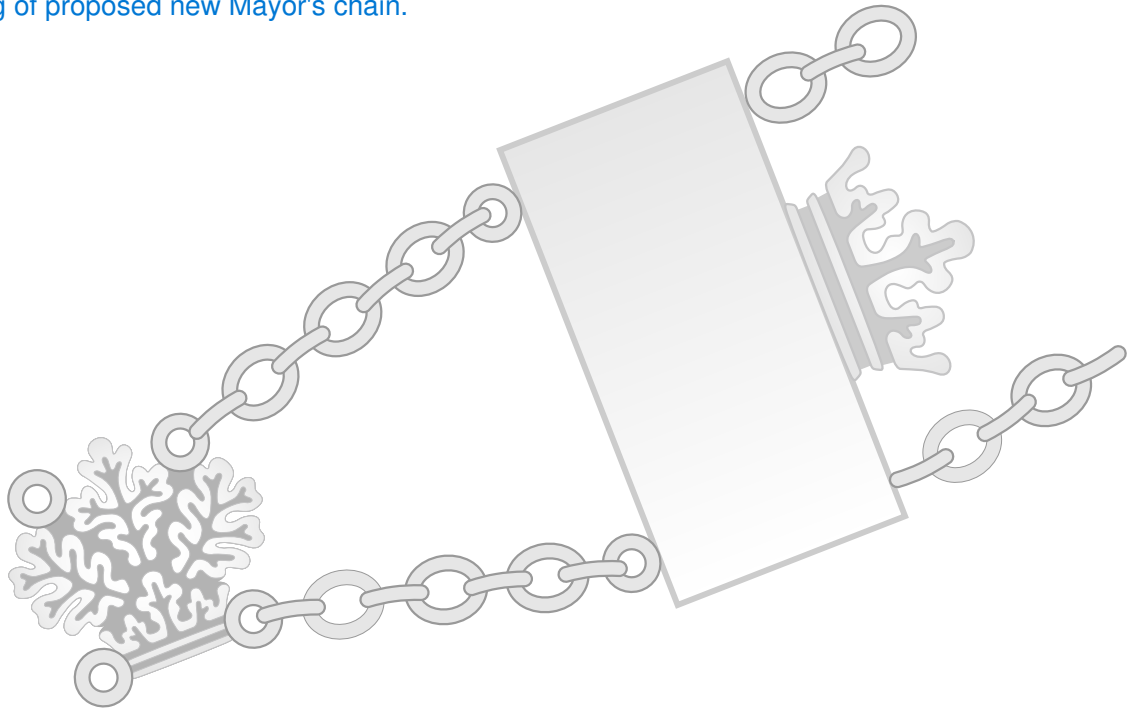


MICHAELS

Civic Outfitters Since 1995



Detailing of proposed new Mayor's chain.



www.civicregalia.com



Proposed Deputy Mayor's chain.





MICHAELS

Civic Outfitters Since 1995



Proposed Consort's chain.



www.civicregalia.com





QUOTE NUMBER

10390

DATE

11 November 2025

EXPIRY DATE

13 April 2026

[Download PDF](#)

FROM

Michael Stopford

Director

07738172011

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PHONE

0117 909 9988

FOR

Harrogate Town Council

TO

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50 East Parade

Harrogate HG1 5BS

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01423 642542

Harrogate Town Council Mayoral Chain

About Michaels

Since 1995, Michaels are a proud UK manufacturer of Civic Robes, Headwear & Accessories. Working closely with Civic Officers and Secretaries, Michaels have created a long-standing reputation of quality, reliability and excellent customer service. As well as Civic Robes, Michaels also manufacture Civic Regalia such as Past Mayor/Chair Badges, Replica Badges of Office, Honorary Badges & Pin Badges.

Editable Quote

Please note that this is an editable quote which allows you to select/deselect items and also the quantity required. Once you have selected the required items and quantity, please accept the quote at the bottom.

Harrogate Town Council Mayoral Chain

Replacement Harrogate Town Council Mayoral Chain

- Bright Silver Badge of Office with 3D New Harrogate Town Council Civic Emblem (90mm x 80mm x 3mm)
- Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Link with Enamel Colouring: 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- Bright Silver MAYOR Top Bar Link (3D MAYOR): 40mm x 25mm x 1.5mm
- Town Emblem Link (Crown of Springs): 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- x 28 Bright Silver Engravable Links + Crown; 35mm x 30mm x 1.5mm (Shoulder Links to have Brooch Fastening on the Inside)
- Bright Silver Oval Back Plate with 3D Crown of Springs Emblem (Brooch Fastening on the Inside)

Harrogate Town Council Chain

3,695.00
x 1
3,695.00

Harrogate Town Council Deputy Mayoral Chain (Option 1) Option 1 recommended and design shown.

- Bright Silver Badge of Office with 3D New Harrogate Town Council Civic Emblem (70mm x 60mm x 3mm)
- Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Link with Enamel Colouring: 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- Bright Silver DEPUTY MAYOR Top Bar Link (3D MAYOR): 40mm x 25mm x 1.5mm
- Town Emblem Link (Crown of Springs): 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- x 12 Bright Silver (Crown of Springs) Links + Crown: 25mm x 20mm x 1.5mm
- x 12 Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Links: 25mm x 25mm x 1.5mm - (Shoulder Links to have Brooch Fastening on the Inside)
- Bright Silver Oval Back Plate with 3D Crown of Springs Emblem (Brooch Fastening on the Inside)

HTC Dep Mayor Chain

3,425.00
x 1
3,425.00

Harrogate Town Council Deputy Mayoral Chain (Option 2)

- Bright Silver Badge of Office with 3D New Harrogate Town Council Civic Emblem (70mm x 60mm x 3mm)
- Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Link with Enamel Colouring: 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- Bright Silver DEPUTY MAYOR Top Bar Link (3D MAYOR): 40mm x 25mm x 1.5mm
- Town Emblem Link (Crown of Springs): 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- Shield Shape Link with (Crown of Springs: 25mm x 22mm)

Recommend the Double Chain Option

HTC Dep Mayor Chain Option 2

Not required.

3,275.00
x 1
3,275.00

Harrogate Town Council Mayoress/Consort Badge

- Bright Silver Badge of Office with 3D New Harrogate Town Council Civic Emblem (50mm x 40mm x 3mm)
- Bright Silver Yorkshire Rose Link with Enamel Colouring: 15mm x 15mm x 1.5mm
- 8mm Bright Silver Chain

Harrogate Town Council Mayoress Consort Chain

x 1,850.00
Choose quantity
3,700.00

☒ **Mayoral Chain Case**

Mayoral Chain Case with Foam Insert
Specification Dimension - External
External Length 400mm
External Width 240mm
External Height 125mm

*Included with Chain Purchase



x 4

☐ **Velvet Chain Collarette**

Handmade Double Backed Velvet Collarette.
Each Link sewn to keep Chain shape & Also protects Chain Links from general useage
Available in a variety of colours



375.00
x 4
1,500.00
Not selected

Only 2 required.

☐ **Mayoral Chain Leather Satchel**

Handmade Real Leather Satchel (with or without shoulder strap) , cushioned inside and stud/popper fastening.



625.00
x 4
2,500.00
Not selected

Only 2 required.

DPD Delivery

25.00
x 1
25.00

Refer to costs of individual items and not collective total.

Options selected	4 of 6
Subtotal	14,120.00
VAT 20%	2,824.00
Total GBP	£16,944.00

Sizing & Colour Options

After reviewing the HTC Brand Book and after design the Chain artwork, it is my recommendation to produce the Chains and Badges of Office in Bright Silver.

HTC Brand Book Draft V0.7.9

Payment Terms

- We require payment in full within 30 days of delivered goods.
- Payment can be made by check, card, BACS or via the supplier portal (If Applicable)

Purchase Orders

If an Official Purchase Order is required, please accept the quote and add the PO/Order Number in the Additional Comments or send the Purchase Order separately to info@civicrobes.com

Delivery

Please add required delivery date and best delivery address in Additional Comments

Questions & Answers

Harrogate Town Council Mayoral Chain

Total GBP £16,944.00 (4 of 6 options selected)

Additional comments

Optional

☐ Yes, I Iona Taylor agree to and accept this quote, on 25 February 2026 at 1:21 PM.

Accept Quote

Decline this quote...