

<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Report title:</b>	<b>Biannual call for Honours nominations</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Melanie Wilson</b> , Head of Corporate Governance/Council Secretary, <a href="mailto:melanie.wilson@gmc-uk.org">melanie.wilson@gmc-uk.org</a> , 0161 240 8331
<b>Action:</b>	<b>To consider</b>

## **Executive summary**

Executive Board considers if it wishes to make or support any nominations on a regular basis.

Members are asked to consider if there are any individuals for whom we would wish to make or support a nomination. This may be a member of staff, an associate, a member or it may be an individual with whom we have worked closely in the last year.

It is assumed that nominations will continue to be processed in the usual way, despite the current situation, but advice is awaited from DHSC.

## **Recommendation**

The Executive Board is asked to:

- a** To consider if there are individuals for whom we would wish to make or support a nomination for an Honour.

## Introduction

- 1 The Executive Board considers making or supporting nominations for Honours in either the Sovereign's Birthday or the New Year's Honours lists on a twice -yearly basis.
- 2 One nomination was made in the last round, and we are yet to hear whether this individual will receive an award.
- 3 Advice has been sought about whether the process is being amended in the light of the current situation but for the time being the assumption is that nominations will continue, but award ceremonies are inevitably going to be postponed or conducted in a different way. An update will be provided once advice is received.

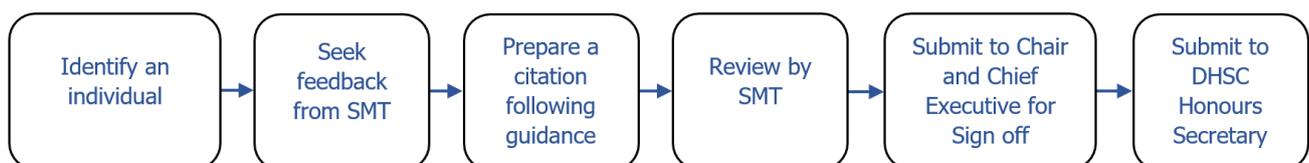
## The process

- 4 You will recall that we proposed a twin track process:

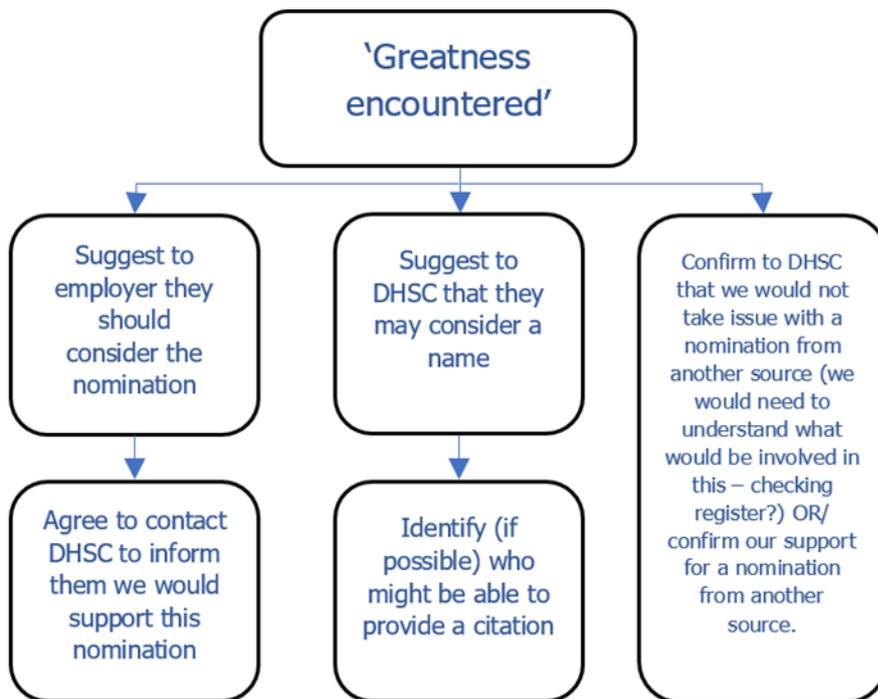
### *For our own staff/members*

- 5 This is a straightforward matter of completing the citation form and returning it to the DHSC honours secretary. We are advised that there is not a requirement for the GMC to seek letters of support for its nominations as would be the case if a member of the public was making a nomination. The citation should ideally be signed by the Chair or Chief Executive to demonstrate the organisation's support of the individual.
- 6 The citation should be clear about how and why a person's actions are over and above the expectations of the role, it should provide context about why an achievement is impressive and it should be clear about how it has made a difference – it must stand up to competition, ultimately.
- 7 We are advised to limit submission to one or two for each round. The lead time for a successful nomination can be up to eighteen months. For nominees approaching retirement, we are advised to make the nomination as soon as possible as it is less likely that an award will be made to someone who has actually retired.

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- 9 In the case where we work with an individual external to the organisation who we believe would merit an award, there are a number of routes open to us that do not involve us making the citation itself:
- 10 We could flag the individual to their employer, suggesting that we would support them in making a nomination, and that we could write the employer a letter which describes their contribution without directly stating a judgment on their suitability to receive an honour.
- 11 We could pass names to the DHSC, ideally with a suggestion as to who might be best placed to write a more complete citation. DHSC would then investigate, though they stress their resource for this is limited.
- 12 We could agree to be approached by the DHSC as one of the bodies they consult when undertaking due diligence on the nominations made by others.
- 13 We could identify the individual to NHSE/I who make their own nominations.



### **For discussion**

- 14** Executive Board is asked to consider whether there are any staff members, associates, Council members or others with whom we have worked closely over the past year that we would wish to nominate for consideration.
- 15** If so, to commission a draft citation for review by SMT before signoff by the Chair and Chief Executive.
- 16** The Board is asked to consider the route for nominations – either to the Department of Health and Social Care or via the devolved nations’ individual arrangements.
- 17** It is important that any nominations are kept in confidence as there is a long process beyond the GMC before an announcement is made.