

Chairman of Council report – Council Meeting

11 October 2024

The Chief Executive and I met HRH Duke of Edinburgh last week on his visit to Herefordshire. The Duke visited the Low Carbon Technology Centre at Holme Lacy College which is equipping students with vital skills in this growing field. He also toured the College`s School of Blacksmithing which has the largest forge in Europe. He then visited NMITE and their centre for research and education in timber construction at Skylon Park and also the Veterans centre in West Street Hereford.

The King`s Awards for Enterprise for outstanding achievement by UK businesses

The Lord Lieutenant representing the King awarded the King`s award for Enterprise to soft fruit specialist S & A Davies who are based in Herefordshire. The award was one of 250 awarded to companies this year and is regarded as the most prestigious business awards in the UK.



It was awarded for innovation, recognising the work the company has done in bringing market changing genetics to growers across Europe and North America and in developing a model of knowledge exchange which supports and delivers a sustainable and resilient return for independent growers and their communities.

S & A Davies are the first Herefordshire company to receive a King`s award. Representatives of the company will attend a reception at Winsor Castle and the company will be able to use the Royal emblem for five years.

Picture : Managing Director Peter Judge receives the award from HM Lord Lieutenant Edward Harley CBE

If colleagues are aware of exceptional delivery of any company in their wards please forward details to the Lord Lieutenant's office. The four categories in the award are:

- **innovation**
- **international trade**
- **sustainable development**
- **promoting opportunity through social mobility**

The Vice Chair and I have carried out several Citizenship ceremonies. I attended the Battle of Britain service at St. Peters Church Hereford and took part in the cadet review, various investitures in the County and Hereford History day at the Town Hall.