

To Whom It May Concern

I would like to nominate Luther Blissett for the Honour of Freedom of the Borough.

Over many years Luther has been involved in literally scores of community events and projects. In the latest Covid-19 pandemic he has organised fundraising events, promoted other people's events including my own virtual fund raising quiz for the Covid Appeal and many raffles and auctions with Watford & Three Rivers Trust. He has also worked with many other local charities including supporting Veterans in Watford and Hertfordshire.

Luther has also had an outstanding career as a professional footballer and the first black footballer to score a hat-trick for the English National Team. Luther is an inspirational character and he has used his role model status as a football player to help get across the anti-racism message and educate the younger generation about racism. He has become a leading figure against racism and not just in football but within the whole community in Watford. Luther has been involved in Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC) since the late 1990's when he was assistant Manager to Graham Taylor at Watford Football Club.

Luther has spoken up about his experiences of living with a family member with dementia and promoting Golden Memories, a reminiscence programme for people living with low to moderate dementia and their carers at Watford Football Club. Luther is very good at talking to many different groups of people and has had a huge impact on so many, he is an absolute football legend in their eyes

Luther will always speak up for his local community and challenge injustices. He works tirelessly and gives his time generously. He is dedicated and always focused on doing his best for whatever project he's supporting. He is calm and positive and never seeks any personal recognition or gain.

For all these reasons I have no hesitation in putting forward this nomination. Watford is lucky to have such a genuine and generous "local hero". If anyone ever deserved to have the honour of Freedom of the Borough, it is Luther Blissett.

Peter Taylor  
Elected Mayor of Watford