



High Sheriff of the West Midlands 2026/27

Carmen Watson

Event and Engagement Protocols

The High Sheriff is His Majesty The King's second most senior representative in the County, after the Lord-Lieutenant. The Lord-Lieutenant and the High Sheriff are both appointed by, and are representatives of, the Sovereign in the County.

The Lord-Lieutenant is responsible for supporting civic, ceremonial, voluntary, charitable and social activity.

The High Sheriff's primary responsibilities relate to the justice system, and in particular, the Police and other law enforcement agencies, the Judiciary, the Probation Service and the Prison Service. High Sheriffs are also encouraged to engage with the voluntary sector, particularly those involved with crime reduction and social cohesion.

The High Sheriff gives precedence to the Lord-Lieutenant (or Deputies acting in their place), and to Lord Mayors and Mayors at their own civic functions. When in attendance upon High Court Judges at the Crown Court, the High Sheriff has precedence.

How do I address the High Sheriff?

Written: Carmen Watson, High Sheriff of the County of West Midlands

Salutation: Dear High Sheriff

In a speech: In the preamble, as "High Sheriff", and subsequently as "Carmen Watson" or "Miss Watson".

In conversation: The High Sheriff is entirely comfortable being addressed as Carmen.

Post event

Carmen Watson would welcome receipt of wording or photographs which may be shared on the High Sheriff's website and social media channels to promote the organisation being visited.

Please note: Any photographs shared are deemed to have the organisation's necessary approvals and consents for publication across all High Sheriff social media platforms and communications channels.

Contact

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