



Wording of A Warrant of Appointment for High Sheriffs in England and Wales

At the meeting of the Privy Council in March each year, His Majesty The King formally appoints an individual to the office of High Sheriff for each of the Counties in England and Wales (except Cornwall, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire). The method of appointment is known as “pricking” as The King literally pricks a hole through the nominee’s name on a list of High Sheriffs in Nomination.

At the conclusion of the meeting, appointees are sent a Warrant of Appointment, signed by the Clerk of the Council. The wording of the warrant is below:

“At the Court at Buckingham Palace

PRESENT,

THE KING’S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL

TO **Firstname Lastname**

WHEREAS HIS MAJESTY was this day pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to nominate you for and appoint you to be High Sheriff of the County of **County** during HIS MAJESTY’S PLEASURE:

These are therefore to require you to take the Custody and Charge of the said County, and duly to perform the duties of High Sheriff thereof during HIS MAJESTY’S PLEASURE, whereof you are duly to answer according to law.

Dated this **xx** day of **Month Year**.

BY HIS MAJESTY’S COMMAND”