

Ken recognised for 'services to higher education'

Retired Staffordshire University Secretary and Clerk to the Board of Governors Ken Sproston has been made an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

The honour recognises Ken for his 'services to higher education'. He joins a list of celebrities including Lenny Henry and Benedict Cumberbatch.

He said: "It was a lovely surprise. I've only told very close family and it's a relief now to be able to share it. I don't know how my wife Jackie has kept it quiet for so long."

Ken, who lives in Stafford, served the University for 27 years and as a member of the Executive has overseen its development from polytechnic to University in 1992.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Gunn said: "As a University we're delighted to receive this news and thrilled that Ken's hard work and dedication to his role here has been publically recognised.

"A lot of Ken's work was behind the scenes although Ken played a crucial role in the development of Staffordshire University over more than 25 years and we recognised this internally with a special Lifetime Achievement award before his retirement last Autumn."

On leaving school, Ken joined Staffordshire County Council as a junior clerk. He also worked at Salford College and Bolton Institute before joining Staffordshire Polytechnic in the late eighties.

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