

THE ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF MEMBERS OF LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

JOB DESCRIPTION

Each County Councillor is elected by the people of a particular electoral division to represent them on Leicestershire County Council. Whilst they each represent a particular part of the County they are also required to represent the interests of the wider Leicestershire community, sometimes on issues which go beyond the County Council's functions or local boundaries.

County Councillors have particular responsibilities for the services provided by the County Council; within a legislative framework they decide what services to provide and how much money to spend on them and ensure that they are delivered efficiently and effectively. The Government and other bodies have issued various guidance as to how councillors should carry out their roles.

KEY TASKS

Representatives

- to be accessible to local people (including people who did not vote for them), to advocate their views and to look after their concerns generally;
- to explain to people the responsibility and decisions of the County Council and other public services bodies with which the County Council works in partnership; to represent the Council to the community and the community to the Council;
- to support and promote citizenship and participation in local democracy generally;

Decision Making and Scrutiny

- to attend regularly and take part in meetings of the full County Council, its committees and other bodies;
- to develop a good working knowledge of how the County Council operates and to apply this knowledge through:
 - contributing to the formation and scrutiny of the Council's policies, budget strategies and service delivery;

- contributing to the scrutiny and/or performance review of the Council's services and those of other local public bodies;
- to participate in the activities of any Party group of which the councillor is a member;

Individual

- to participate constructively in good governance of the area and to ensure that all duties and actions are carried out in accordance with the highest standards of conduct;
- to behave in a manner which maintains public confidence in the County Council and local democracy generally;
- to identify any skills or gaps in knowledge and request training and support where required;
- to explain and account for personal performance as a County Councillor on a regular basis, particularly through the publication of an Annual Report on the Council's web site.
- to fulfil their responsibilities as a corporate parent for children and young people in the care of the local authority.