



NORTHAW & CUFFLEY PARISH COUNCIL

7 Maynard Place, Cuffley, Herts, EN6 4JA
01707 875825

MEETING	Full Council
MEETING DATE	2 nd October 2024
SUBJECT	Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS)
AGENDA ITEM NO.	2024/25 Item 37b
REPORT BY	Lisa Peters Clerk/RFO

1. BACKGROUND



The Foundation Award of the Local Council Award Scheme is for councils who want to show they meet a set of minimum standards to deliver effectively for their communities.

To meet this award the council demonstrates that it has the required documentation and information in place for operating lawfully and according to standard practice.

The council also has policies for training for its councillors and officers and so has the foundations for improvement and development in place.

The Foundation award allows you to benchmark your performance as well as challenging you to consider your councils continuing development and improvement.

For further information about the Local Council Award Scheme, visit the [National Association of Local Council](#) (NALC) website.

2. CRITERIA

The Clerk of the Council is confident that the 26 criteria for foundation level can be demonstrated within the next 3-6 months. Council should bear in mind that on 1st October 2024 these criteria are being updated and possibly amended but this should not affect the Councils decision to sign up. .

The criteria can be viewed in the following document: <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/our-work/lcas/1855-lcas-guide/file>



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3. RESOLUTION FOR COUNCIL

The Council resolves that it would like to achieve the award and delegates the Clerk to sign up and attend the October session for the updated criteria.

4. FUTURE AWARDS

The Quality Award demonstrates that a council achieves good practice in governance, community engagement and council improvement. Quality councils go above and beyond their legal obligations, leading their communities and continuously seeking opportunities to improve and develop even further.

To achieve the Quality Award a council demonstrates that it meets all requirements of the Foundation Award and has additional evidence of good governance, effective community engagement and council improvement. Due to the level of this achievement, a council with a Quality Award can also be eligible to use the general power of competence.



The Quality Gold Award demonstrates that a council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership and council development. Quality Gold councils provide leadership for their communities, bring people together, have excellent business planning processes, ensuring value for money as well as constantly seeking new innovations and opportunities to improve. They highlight the very best we, as a sector, can achieve for our communities.





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Implications (completed by the Clerk)	
Staffing Implications	Clerk would be required to collate and provide documentary evidence, this may also change depending on the October criteria being relaunched
Council objectives	Meets objective of being a good council and ensuring good governance and transparency
Equalities and human rights	There are no equality or human rights issues
Crime & Disorder	Crime and disorder have been considered
Biodiversity	There are no biodiversity issues
Financial	The only cost would be to certain aspects of the training budget of staff and councillors which is already in place. Again subject to October changes.
Legal	Covers most of the Local Government Act 1972
Risk Management	Noted but can only improve the reputation of the Council, councillors and officers showing efforts to ensure good governance and transparency in a recognised framework