

LGA Independent Group Next Generation 2016/17

Development programme for aspiring leaders



Why this programme

Politics is the lifeblood of local government. At their best, councillors know and understand their communities intimately, create aspirations out of local desires, draw compelling pictures of the future and bring people together to achieve great things. But, inspiring local communities and creating a better future for the people and places we represent takes ambitious leadership.

The Local Government Association (LGA) Independent Group Next Generation has been developed within the traditions and values of the Independent Group, drawing on a range of experts to create an unparalleled political development opportunity for participants.

The programme is designed to support and encourage councillors to:

- be bold and confident political leaders, representing, understanding and working with their communities, and upholding a clear set of values and morals
- progress in their political careers
- be champions of local government within their wider political career.

What we offer

The programme will consist of three residential training modules over the course of two days each at the Warwick Conference Centre, Coventry:

Module 1: 14-15 October 2016

Module 2: 2-3 December 2016

Module 3: 3-4 February 2017

The modules aim to:

- raise awareness of the different styles and approaches to political leadership
- increase confidence and awareness of the importance of communication and media skills

- help participants explore their own personal strengths and weaknesses as a community and political leaders
- develop participants' understanding of the practical strategies to policy making and best practice in local groups and councils.

Every participant is also offered the opportunity to take a Myers–Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) self-report test and a 360° appraisal with one-to-one political mentoring.

What previous cohorts have said about the programme

Attending this programme was a challenging and rewarding experience. The case work study opened up extremely useful communication channels within my local authority and working with fellow councillors in a supportive atmosphere enabled me to explore different ways of reaching outcomes. I wholeheartedly recommend this programme.

Councillor Laura Conway, Independent councillor in North Kesteven (cohort 2014/15)

I was delighted to gain a place in the programme. The wide-ranging modules cover most angles from personal goals to strategic development. The timely and practical public speaking module was of immediate benefit, aiding my major speech at Full Council for our chosen motion.

Councillor Martin Fodor, Green councillor in Bristol (cohort 2015/16)

This is a really effective programme. Many of the speakers were leaders in their fields who were able to give useful insights into detail that I would otherwise not have access to. One of the things we were asked to do was to list our short and long term objectives. Following the programme my short term objectives have been met and I am getting close to one of the long term objectives and its only six months since the programme.

Councillor Richard Everett, UKIP councillor in Tendring (cohort 2015/16)

Who this is for

Next Generation is a programme for talented and ambitious councillors who have demonstrated potential and would like to build on their skills to progress in a political career. To apply your council must be in membership of the LGA.

How to apply

We offer a limited number of places per year and application is by way of a competitive process. To apply, please visit the Next Generation page on our website www.lgaindependent.local.gov.uk

Deadline for receipt of applications is **Friday 22 July 2016**

Next Generation residential training is available free of charge thanks to funding from the LGA Leadership and Localism Programme. Councillors are asked to cover their travelling costs.

Further information

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