**Template press release – The Independent Group**

February 2019

*This a template release for any members wanting to dispel confusion locally between your Group and The Independent Group recently established by existing MPs.*

*Do personalise, localise and change as you wish, adding your successes and USP.*

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Contact name

Your Phone

Your Email

**LOCAL INDEPENDENT(S) PUTTING PEOPLE ABOVE POLITICS**

This week over ten MPs quit their political party and joined together as The Independent Group.

To avoid confusion, (cllr name / members of group name) want to clarify that (I/we) (is/are) not affiliated with this group. In fact none of the 1700 Independent Councillors across England and Wales working at the Borough, District or County level, or councillors at Town and Parish level, are part of this new group.

(Group name / I / we) have been working hard for residents for (number) years, listening to you; acting on your concerns; and improving our community.

Independents remain free of party politics to focus on the best outcomes for our residents, not on any national party wrangling. We put the issue, resident, community and country first, without the interference of party politics.

So to anyone wanting to stand or vote for Independents in the May elections, be assured we are working for you and our local community.

* End -

**Notes to Editors**

* There are 1700 Independent Councillors across England and Wales at the Borough, District, City and County level in addition to the many Independents at the Town and Parish level. (source: LGA Independent Group).