

LGA Independent Group Next Generation 2017/18

Development programme for aspiring leaders



Why this programme

Politics is the lifeblood of local government. At their best, politicians 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 LGA Independent Group Next Generation programme has been developed to create an unparalleled political development opportunity for participants.

The programme is designed in line with our values of Integrity, Challenge, Collaboration and Responsiveness, 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, due to take place at University of Warwick.

Module 1: 6-7 October 2017

Module 2: 1-2 December 2017

Module 3: 2-3 February 2018

The modules aim to:

- raise awareness of the different styles and approaches to political leadership and policy making

- help participants understand their distinctive approach to policy and governance as Independents or representing their party
- enable participants to define their 'vision' for their council/ward/group
- increase confidence and awareness of the importance of communication and media skills
- help participants know more about their own personal strengths and weaknesses as a community and political leader.

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

Feedback from previous cohorts

“The LGA Next Generation Programme has to be one of the best courses any aspiring leader can go on. Personally I learnt to become a better public speaker and to have a better understanding of the different personalities of opposing councillors, colleagues and officers and how that effects decisions they make.”

**Councillor Mark Stephenson, UKIP Councillor, Tendingr
(cohort 2015/16)**

“This is a great programme, and I was delighted to gain a place. The wide-ranging programme covers 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, Bristol
(cohort 2015/16)**

“I am certain that each and everyone of those attending the programme will be a better councillor for having completed the training. The excellent learning tools we acquired will help us thrive in the role of councillor.”

Councillor Stephen Hunt, Independent Councillor, Neath Port Talbot (cohort 2016/17)

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, visit the Next Generation page on our website www.lgaindependent.local.gov.uk and follow the link to the online form.

Deadline for receipt of applications is Friday 4 August 2017.

As part of the application process, we ask applicants to explain why they would like this development opportunity. We also ask for one reference from a political colleague or councillor and for applicants to commit to attend all three modules and undertake all programme work.

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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