

# LGA Liberal Democrat Group Next Generation 2018/2019

Development programme for aspiring leaders



Politics is the lifeblood of local government. At their best, politicians know and understand their communities personally, 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) Liberal Democrat Group Next Generation has been developed within the traditions and values of the Liberal Democrat party, drawing on a range of experts to create an unparalleled political development opportunity for participants.

## 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.



“Joining Next Generation Cohort 12 is one of the best things I have done since becoming a councillor three years ago. It provided high quality structured training which includes great modules on leadership and how to effectively engage colleagues in our local party. It has positively changed the way I look at my role as group leader. It has helped me deal with the media and means we are far more effective locally.

The course has provided a great network of new friends and colleagues to share ideas, frustrations and good news with. It is so useful to know and talk to people who share the same issues outside the local party and who can provide help and experience.

The one thing that stuck with me - advice from one of our Lords to be a ‘guerrilla in opposition’. It has helped change our opposition group so we are far more effective”

– **Anders Christensen, Liberal Democrat Group leader,  
Aylesbury Vale District Council**



“The Next Generation programme was an awesome opportunity to network with other Liberal Democrats from across the country. We shared many experiences of what was happening in our towns and cities which was really beneficial to all of us. We covered so many topics in the modules like planning a political career, making a positive impact and leadership. There were many opportunities for practical sessions such as public speaking and tips and tricks.

I gained so much from the programme and had great fun too whilst picking up great skill sets to help make the Lib Dems successful in gaining more council seats in Liverpool”

– **Mirna Juarez, Liberal Democrat Regeneration & Planning Spokesperson, Liverpool City Council**

## What we offer

The programme will consist of three residential training modules over the course of two days each.

The modules aim to:

- raise awareness of the different styles and approaches to political leadership
- help participants understand a distinctive Liberal Democrat approach to policy and governance
- 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
- develop participants’ understanding of the practical strategies to policy-making and best practice in Liberal Democrat groups and councils.

## 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.local.gov.uk/lga-libdem-group](http://www.local.gov.uk/lga-libdem-group) and follow the link to the online form.

### **Deadline for receipt of applications is 15 August 2018**

As part of the application, 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. The LGA is unable to cover travel expenses, however this can usually be recovered from your local authority.

Contact details

[libdem@local.gov.uk](mailto:libdem@local.gov.uk) 020 7664 3235 or

Terry Stacy [terry.stacy@local.gov.uk](mailto:terry.stacy@local.gov.uk) 020 7664 3295

**The Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors has been commissioned to deliver the programme on behalf of the LGA Liberal Democrat Group.**

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For a copy in Braille, larger print or audio, please contact us on 020 7664 3000.

We consider requests on an individual basis.

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