

LGA Liberal Democrat Group **Next Generation 2023/2024**

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.



The LGA Next Generation programme helped me to think more about where I was politically as well as my future, at a time when I was feeling burnt out from campaigning.

Being from a small Lib Dem council group, the programme gave me the tools to better manage my workload, and I was able to meet other councillors across the country to share campaign insights and best practices.

In particular, the media training gave me more confidence to tackle video and radio interviews. I left with new friends and colleagues and new ideas for all sorts of campaigning: building local teams, making campaigning fun and effectively holding your council to account in opposition.

Councillor Alan Good, Manchester City Council



The LGA next generation course really made me think about what my political ambitions were and what direction I wanted to take next. It gave me space to unpick some of the areas that I needed to improve on, pushed me outside my comfort zone and gave us all access to some really excellent advice, support and training.

Attending the course gave me a great group of peers who all understand the ups and downs of politics but all have really unique experiences and represent different communities across the country. The friendships I made have been empowering and supportive and helped me to take new steps forward.

Councillor Hannah Perkins, Swale 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 local.gov.uk/next-generation/liberal



Deadline for receipt of applications is 21 July 2023.

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

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or

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The Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors has been commissioned to deliver the programme on behalf of the LGA Liberal Democrat Group and it is funded by UK Government.

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