

Peer challenge

Expression of interest to become an officer peer

The Local Government Association's (LGA) support for sector-led improvement (www.local.gov.uk/sector-led-improvement) provides a range of tools and support to help councils, fire and rescue services and other organisations further strengthen local accountability and explore how effectively they are delivering services.

Peer challenge (www.local.gov.uk/our-support/peer-challenges) is a fundamental part of this offer. Peers are at the heart of the peer challenge process. They help councils, fire and rescue services and other organisations with their improvement and learning by providing a 'practitioner perspective' and 'critical friend' challenge.

The make-up of a peer team reflects the requirements of the council, fire and rescue service and other organisations receiving the peer challenge. We regularly review our pool of peers to ensure we can offer peers with the experience and expertise required by the sector. The information we request in this form will help us consider your knowledge, expertise and experience, and how that matches the demand and requirements for peers.

You should submit your completed form to:
peer.application@local.gov.uk

Hard copies can be sent to:
Peer Support Team
18 Smith Square
London SW1P 3HZ

If you would prefer to submit a Curriculum Vitæ (CV) then please also complete sections 5-7 of this form and submit both.

We will use the information you provide for administration, record keeping, and potentially selection for peer work within the local government and public sector. We may also share your information with others – such as local authorities and other public sector bodies we work with – for these purposes.

By returning this form (and CV) to us you consent to our processing personal data about you were necessary for the purposes described above. You can ask for a copy of the information we hold about you and to correct any inaccuracies in your information.

If you would like to discuss your interest in becoming an officer peer please contact:

Paul Clarke
Programme Manager (Peer Support)
paul.clarke@local.gov.uk

Thank you for your interest.

Section one

Personal information

First Name:

Surname:

Work email:

Work telephone:

Mobile telephone:

PA/diary assistant
email:

PA/diary assistant
telephone:

Date form completed:

In order to maximise the peer expertise we offer to the sector we look at the relevant skills of all peers when putting peer teams together. However if there are areas you are particularly interested in, or have been asked to apply for, then please indicate the relevant peer challenge programme(s) below:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate peer challenge | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Community safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult services | <input type="checkbox"/> HMEP (highways and transport) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire and rescue services | <input type="checkbox"/> Culture and libraries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children services | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning committee reviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Equalities and diversity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning peer challenge and strategic planning |

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's safeguarding | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's leadership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's early years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's SEND | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's domestic abuse |

Section two

Employment history

Please also state the role/s you have held over the last 10 years, listing the most recent first.

Current role

Organisation	Position held	From/to

Past roles

Organisation	Position held	From/to

Organisation	Position held	From/to

Organisation	Position held	From/to

Organisation	Position held	From/to

Section two

Employment history (continued)

Organisation	Position held	From/to

Section three

Personal statement

Please summarise the skills, experience and expertise you would bring as a peer. We will use this statement as the basis for your 'peer profile'.

The profile is what we normally send to councils, fire and rescue services and other organisations when suggesting peers to them. You may wish to include any previous experience of working in a peer capacity (eg for the Audit Commission, regional body or improvement agency).

Your personal statement should be no longer than 350 words, written in the third person, with details of your current role, key achievements in this and/or previous roles.

Section four

Education and qualifications

Please list any qualifications, particularly professional qualifications, that you think may be relevant to the peer work you are expressing an interest in. For example, CQSW/Dip SW for Children's Services work. Please also list any training undertaken with the LGA eg Advanced Executive Leadership (AEL) Programme, Future Leaders Programme (FLP), Leeds Castle, etc.

Section five

Unspent Criminal Convictions

Peers can work in challenging and sensitive situations, including the handling of confidential information. You will not be asked to disclose convictions which are 'spent' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Having an unspent conviction will not necessarily bar you from becoming a peer; this will depend on the circumstance and background to your offence. It is therefore important that we know of anything that may have a bearing on that part of the role. If we require evidence other forms of check, such as CRB, this will be handled separately.

Do you have any unspent criminal convictions? Yes No

If yes, please give details of the convictions(s) and date(s).

Please note you need only disclose convictions which are not spent.

Section six

Endorsement and reference

We ask that you have the endorsement of your employer to be a peer. This lets us know that your organisation will be happy to release you to serve as a peer if required. Officers should be endorsed by their chief executive, chief fire officer, director or line manager. Please provide the name, position and contact number for the individual who has endorsed your application to be a peer. Please note that we may contact them to confirm the endorsement.

I agree to the person named in this document applying to become a peer.

Name

Position

Telephone

Email

Date

We also ask that you list at least one person who can be contacted regarding your work and suitability to be a peer. Ideally this will be someone different to the person listed above. We request that your referee is someone not from the LGA. If a reference can be submitted with this form that will speed up the process of progressing your expression of interest in being a peer.

Name

Position

Organisation

Address

Telephone

Email

Section seven

Equal Opportunities information

Please note the following information will not be used in the peer selection or placement process, it will only be used for monitoring purposes as we are asked from time to time to report on the equality impact aspects of our work.

Gender Male Female Please describe

I would describe my ethnic origin as: Prefer not to say

Asian/Asian British Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi
Chinese

Any other Asian (please describe)

Black African/Caribbean/Black British

Caribbean African

Any other Black (please describe)

Mixed/multiple ethnic groups

White + Asian

White + Black African

White + Black Caribbean

Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic background (please describe)

Other ethnic group

Arab

Any other (please describe)

White

English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British

Irish

Gypsy or Irish Traveller

Any other White background (please describe)

Under the Equality Act, 2010, disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on a person's ability to carry out day-to-day activities.

Do you have a disability?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Please describe any special requirements needed regarding carrying out potential peer work

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

Please return your completed form to peer.application@local.gov.uk