

Agenda item 6

For decision – Confirmation Frome Town Council is eligible to apply for the Local Council Award Scheme Quality Gold Award operated by NALC

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Summary

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) operates an award scheme that “celebrates the successes of the very best local councils and provides a framework to support all local councils to meet their full potential.” There are three different levels of award: foundation, quality and quality gold. FTC is applying for NALC’s Quality Gold Award.

Discussion

Like the Clerks’ qualification (CiLCA) that both Paul Wynne and Peter Wheelhouse now hold, having quality marks is a good way for Cllrs and the wider community to be confident that FTC is well run. There are over 9000 parish sector councils in England and Wales, at the time of writing only 52 have been awarded the Quality Gold Award.

As you can see from the appendices this scheme is not so much about *what* we do (as described in our Strategy and annual work programmes) and more about *how* we operate. Are we legislatively compliant, do we follow good practice, do we provide community leadership?

If we are successful in our application, we would show that in the words of NALC that FTC is at the “forefront of best practice by achieving an excellent standard in community governance, community leadership and performance management.”

Over the last few months we have been completing the application form that asks for many examples of our practices. The final step is for Council to confirm by resolution that we meet all requirements for the foundation and quality awards. Also, to confirm by resolution that we have prepared statements on five topics to be presented to the accreditation panel which will decide whether we can be awarded the quality gold award.

Attached at [Appendix 3](#) is the completed application form with links to documentation. At [Appendix 4](#) is the five prepared statements.

Recommendation

Confirm Frome Town Council meets the all the requirements to apply for the Gold Quality Local Council’s Award including the statement on the five topics that will be presented to NALC’s accreditation panel.

For further information about the award and its purpose please click here on [NALC's website](#).
Or contact [Laura Flaherty](#)