

Agenda item 8

For decision – renewal of NALC Gold Award

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Summary (incl. recommendations)

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Local Council Award Scheme was designed to recognise councils for their achievements and to demonstrate adherence to sector standards. There are three levels of award, bronze, silver and gold. In October 2021 FTC achieved the Gold Award. Councils who achieve this award “serve as beacons of the highest standards achievable within our sector, showcasing the epitome of what can be accomplished for our communities. The Gold Award represents their unwavering commitment to exceptional performance and continuous advancement”. The award is valid for four years, with FTC’s coming to an end in October 2025. Since then we have been preparing an application to renew our gold award status.

This paper is a required part of the application process. The Council is asked to confirm by resolution that all the required documents, information and conditions are in place for the Gold Award, and that these are published on the Council’s website, where applicable.

The application

The completed application can be read at [Appendix 8.1 and can be viewed on the website here.](#)

I wanted to highlight that the following documents are currently being worked on:

- Review and update of the complaints procedure
- A Co option Policy
- Review and update of the Community Engagement Policy
- A scheme of delegation
- A medium term financial plan

Each of the five prepared statements can also be viewed on the website:

[Appendix 8.2 Ensures that the council delivers value for money](#)

[Appendix 8.3 Provides leadership in planning for the future of the community](#)

[Appendix 8.4 Engages with the community on issues related to the environment and climate change](#)

[Appendix 8.5 Manages the performance of staff and the council as a corporate body to achieve its business plan](#)

[Appendix 8.6 Supports a culture of civility and respect in the council](#)

The next part of the process is that our application will be put through a triage process which is a light-touch review to identify any potential issues early on and offers constructive feedback

to refine our submission. It is hoped we will be able to submit our application for the next national panel in September.

Other options considered	N/A
Key considerations for the Council	Receiving the Gold Award for a second time will demonstrate FTC's commitment to maintaining the highest standards in the sector.
Consultation and feedback	The application will go through a triage stage and we will be informed of any recommendations to improve to enable us to be awarded the Gold Award.
Links to Council Plan and Medium-Term Financial Plan	This links to Aim 5 to be a bold and effective council. As stated on the NALC website "Winning the award becomes a celebration for councillors and officers alike. It is a tangible acknowledgement and respect for their unwavering commitment and hard work. Beyond the internal benefits, the award becomes a valuable tool for parish and town councils when collaborating with the local community or other partners. It instils confidence in these stakeholders, assuring them that the council operates at a national professional standard and is dedicated to delivering quality services".
Financial and Risk Implications	None
Legal / HR Implications	None
Equalities Implications	None
Community Safety Implications	None
Climate Change and Sustainability Implications	None
Health and Safety Implications	None
Constitutional Requirements	None
Background Papers	None
Report Sign-Off	Peter Wheelhouse, Town Clerk 2/o6/26

Recommendation

Frome Town Council confirms by resolution that all the required documents, information and conditions are in place for the NALC Gold Award, and that these are published on the Council's website, where applicable