

The County Council

Warwickshire County Council provides a wide range of services to over half a million residents. It works with other public, private and voluntary bodies to make Warwickshire a better place for people to live and work. It has specific responsibilities to provide:

- Schools and other educational opportunities;
- Social care services for young and older people;
- Libraries, Museums and other cultural activities;
- The Fire and Rescue Service;
- The Trading Standards Service;
- Highways and other public rights of way; and
- Planning advice as the strategic planning authority, and determining planning applications for minerals and waste management.



Want to know more?

If you would like to find out more about the County Council and its services, attend one of our meetings or speak informally to a serving county councillor, please contact Democratic Services on 01926 412565 email memberservices@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Web: www.warwickshire.gov.uk

The vision for Warwickshire County Council is:

“Working in Partnership to put Customers first; Improve Services and Lead Communities”.



Make Your Voice Heard

Become a Councillor

- Are you interested in helping your local community?
- Do you ever wish you could influence the way things are done in your area?
- Do you have the skills to listen, debate and make a sound decision?
- Have you got the confidence to stand up and speak in public?
- Are you prepared to extend your skills and knowledge?
- Could you devote time to your community?

62 county councillors were elected in Warwickshire in June 2009. They will play their part in providing services such as schools, roads and caring for the elderly...

could you be one of them?

You need to be:

- At least 18 years old
- A British citizen, an EU citizen or a qualifying Commonwealth citizen
- A local elector or have lived or worked in Warwickshire for at least a year before being nominated

Why would I want to be a councillor?

County Councillors are people who wish to improve the effectiveness of local services in Warwickshire and represent the views of the people of their division. Councillors are ordinary people that carry out a very varied and demanding role. Ideally, Members of the Council should reflect the diversity of the population in the district, with a wide range of backgrounds, interests and needs represented.

If I am elected:

How much time will it take:

This will depend on how much time, effort and commitment you are willing to devote to the role.

Most new Councillors will serve on a number of committees, including overview and scrutiny committees, and all Councillors attend full Council and Area Committee meetings. Councillors can expect to attend at least two or three meetings a month, and most of these are held during office hours.



Will I get paid?

Councillors are not paid a salary, but are paid an allowance for the time and expense incurred whilst on Council business. Special Responsibility Allowances are also paid to some Councillors such as Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs for the extra work and responsibility this involves.

Can I get time off work?

If a Councillor works, their employer must by law (Employment Rights Act 1996, Section 50) allow them to take a reasonable amount of time off during working hours, to perform their Council duties. This should be discussed with your employer before you commit to becoming a Councillor.

What support will I get?

If successfully elected, you will be invited to take part in 'New Member Induction' where you will learn more about your role and the Council, meet the officers who will support you in your role as well and other newly elected Councillors. Training packages will also be developed to assist Members to carry out their responsibilities and all Members are provided with computer equipment.

How will I get information to answer questions about the County Council?

A comprehensive list of contacts will be given to you and senior officers will always be ready to help you find the information you need. The Democratic Services team will also be able to provide guidance and signpost you to County Council services and staff.

What other involvement is there?

The County Council works in partnership with many other organisations, which provide community services. Councillors are appointed to represent the Council's view on many of these bodies. Most councillors also serve as a school governor in their local area.

If you would like further information on becoming a candidate please contact the Electoral Officer in the District or Borough in which you wish to stand or Democratic Services at Shire Hall, Warwick, Tel: 01926 412565 E-mail memberservices@warwickshire.gov.uk.