



Clerk to the Council/RFO: J Hodgkiss

Chairman: Cllr. R Ruscoe

"Protecting and improving the quality of life for all Bayston Hill residents"

Local Council Award Scheme

PROPOSAL:

We apply for NALC (*National Association of Local Councils*) Local Council Award Scheme.

WHAT IS IT?

The Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS) is tailored to celebrate the achievements of the finest parish and town councils while offering a structured framework to empower all councils to enhance and realise their full potential. This scheme allows councils to demonstrate adherence to sector standards, be evaluated by their peers, and establish conditions conducive to ongoing improvement.

AWARD LEVELS

There are three levels available.

Bronze: This award serves as a benchmark for evaluating your council's performance. It challenges you to meet the minimum standards and prompts thoughtful consideration of ongoing development and improvement.

Silver: Signifies that a council excels in governance, community engagement, and continuous improvement. Councils emerge as leaders within their communities, consistently seeking opportunities to enhance and develop further.

Gold: The council stands at the pinnacle of best practices, attaining excellence in governance, community leadership, and council development. Gold Award councils not only provide exemplary leadership for their communities but also foster unity, exhibit outstanding business planning processes ensuring optimal value for money, and consistently pursue innovative solutions and opportunities for improvement.

WHY?

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.

Testimonial from other Parishes:

“It is a great way to benchmark ourselves and ensure we have the range of policies and best practice in place. If we have everything already it’s a straightforward process and if it identifies gaps, it’s a good help too.”

“It is also a great way for residents to understand that they have a responsible and accountable council operating properly.”

COST IMPLICATION

There are two fees:

- A registration fee is paid to the National Association of Local Councils (£50 exc. VAT per level)
- An accreditation fee is paid to the organisation responsible for administering the local or regional accreditation process.

Bronze Award:

- Annual income over £25,000 — £80

Silver Award:

- Annual income over £25,000 — £100

Gold Award:

- Annual income over £25,000 — £200